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Kinnock faces battle over MPs' selection

Defence and PR top conference agenda

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Mr Neil Kinnock's attempt to push through one person, one vote for the selection and reselection of Labour MPs, in an effort to curb the hard left, is facing bitter opposition at the Labour Party conference.

The agenda, published yesterday, for the conference later this month also reveals it will run into two other controversies, on defence and proportional representation.

On the one person, one vote, opinion is shown to be sharply divided, with 14 motions in favour and 16 against.

The almost identical wording of the motions opposing

the reform discloses a concerted campaign by the left to keep in the hands of constituency activists in management committees the relatively recent power they secured over the reselection of party MPs between elections.

Mr Kinnock and his centre/soft left majority on the party's national executive believe, however, that they have sufficient trade union block votes sewn up to ensure that they can carry through the reform. The Labour leader believes it is an essential step in restoring the party's public image.

A national executive working party on possible reforms has received majority backing from constituency parties in its consultation exercise.

At a meeting last week the working party whittled down the options to three: retaining the status quo, introducing a simple system of one person, one vote, or combining one person, one vote for individual party members with an electoral college to ensure that the unions retain their influence in constituency parties.

On September 15 the national executive will meet to decide what tactics to adopt at the conference: whether to present it with more than one option or to plump for a single preferred reform.

It will almost certainly back the combination of one person, one vote and the electoral college to ensure union backing and will hope to get a firm decision from this year's conference rather than delaying it for a year as had once seemed likely.

There has never been more than a handful of motions discussing electoral reform and proportional representation at Labour conferences.

With Mr Kinnock remaining adamantly opposed to PR it is a measure of Labour's internal anguish after three election defeats in a row that no fewer than 24 motions and amendments this year raise the subject. Most call for the executive to study the question and report back.

Mr Bryan Gould, Labour's industry spokesman, will attempt to dampen the rising speculation about the possibility of some form of pact between Labour and the Alliance parties at a Fabian meeting on the eve of the conference.

Labour's commitment to electoral reform would be the minimum price from the Alliance for such a deal and Mr Gould, Labour's campaign chief at the election, will make plain his opposition to such a prospect.

There is a growing feeling among leading Labour figures that defence policy cannot be exempted from the wide-ranging review of key policies.

There is no doubt of Labour's alarm on the subject. Some senior figures take the view that Labour can merely stand still and wait for the world to catch up with what they maintain is the only moral policy. Others say that it is time for Labour to stop the process of self-flagellation with a policy which apparently makes the party unelectable.

The defence battle is spilled out in the conference agenda with left wing parties and some unions calling for reaffirmation of the party's unilateralist stance but others such as the electricians' union urging recognition that Labour's defence policy has been a significant factor in its electoral defeats and calling for a referendum on defence.

Fatima Whitbread gains Britain's only gold



Golden girl: Whitbread celebrates the victory that brought Britain's only gold medal in the world athletics championships (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Fresh row threatens the TUC

By Roland Rudd and Tim Jones

On the eve of the TUC conference in Blackpool, a fresh row erupted yesterday over the controversial single-union no-strike deals.

Mr Norman Willis, the TUC general secretary, had managed to get the agreement of all the main unions not to debate the contentious no-strike agreement for one year, while a TUC review body looked into the subject.

By that time, it was hoped, the TUC general council would have thrashed out the question which has led to bitter conflict between so-called "new realists" and fundamentalists who consider surrender of the right to strike to be a betrayal.

The Transport and General Workers' Union, which wants the review body to ban the use of no-strike deals, agreed to Mr Willis's peace plan only on the basis that any union signing a single-union agreement would consult the general secretary first.

Mr Ron Todd, the TGWU general secretary, said he also wanted an agreement that no union would sign a no-strike deal while the review was in process.

He said the spirit of a freeze on no-strike deals had been accepted by the general council.

But only days ago, leaders of the Electronic, Electrical, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union signed a strike-free

Continued on page 22, col 7

JP's to get guidance on uniform sentencing

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

National sentencing guidelines are being drawn up by the Magistrates' Association for every bench in England and Wales in an effort to tackle wide disparities in the penalties courts impose.

The guidelines are being devised for the "top 20" most common offences dealt with by magistrates, such as actual and grievous bodily harm and other wounding offences, criminal damage, theft and burglary.

The plan is to take as the recommended "starting point" the tariff for motoring offences, currently the only sentencing guide magistrates have, and slot other offences on that scale.

The idea of national guidelines was promoted last year in a speech by the previous Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, when he praised guidelines drawn up by Cheshire magistrates

and said such guidance should be available nationally.

Mrs Ann Rich, chairman of the committee working on the guidelines, said: "There are still a lot of complaints that sentences are out of step with one another. Quite often it is because of the peculiarities of the area: for example, in

Falling crime.....5
Police technology.....5

Andover, we have a lot of open roads, so we have a lot of speeding offences."

However, sometimes the disparities arise because magistrates used different starting points when considering penalties.

Guidelines would not be rigid, she said. It would be up to the bench to decide according to the circumstances of the case what penalty was correct.

There has been constant

criticism of inconsistencies in sentencing between magistrates' courts. In training sessions, JPs come up with vastly differing sentences for the same offence, from a small fine at one end to committing the case to the Crown Court at the other.

There is also the anomaly that fines, for example, take no account of an offender's wealth. Recent examples include the wealthy pop star, Boy George, being fined £250 for possession of drugs.

The guidance comes at the same time as the Lord Chancellor's department is promoting a more structured approach to sentencing decisions.

It has issued magistrates with check-lists of how to arrive at their decisions and these will be followed by further guidelines on specific decisions such as whether to grant bail.

Cram flops in 1,500 metre final

By Our Sports Staff

Fatima Whitbread claimed Britain's only gold medal of the world athletics championships when she won the women's javelin yesterday in Rome.

After a disappointing eight days for British athletics it took an injury-defying performance on the last day from Miss Whitbread, aged 26, to produce Britain's solitary world champion after eight days of competition.

Shrugging off her shoulder troubles which nearly made her withdraw from Rome, she managed to unleash a throw of 73.16 metres to take the lead from her main rival, East Germany's Petra Felke, and followed it with a mammoth effort of 76.64 metres, the third longest throw of all time.

Steve Cram, Britain's other gold medal favourite, flopped in the men's 1,500 metres final, in which he trailed in eighth.

But there was better news for Britain when the men's 400 metres relay team managed to win a silver medal behind the United States, and Jack Buckner claimed a bronze in the 5,000 metres behind the overwhelming favourite, Morocco's Said Aouita.

In the Italian Grand Prix at Monza, Brazil's Nelson Piquet tightened his grip on the driver's world championship by beating his compatriot and nearest challenger, Ayrtton Senna, to win the race.

Athletics, pages 36, 38
Motor racing, page 37

More aid for flood victims

By Our Foreign Staff

Britain is to give more aid to the millions of peasants made homeless and hungry by the worst floods in Bangladesh for more than 40 years.

Officials at the Overseas Development Administration said yesterday that the Government intended to respond swiftly and positively to proposals expected to be made to them by non-Governmental relief organizations.

Several million pounds are also to be allocated for longer-term rehabilitation work.

The role of the Government is to be discussed at meetings with a team of senior Bangladesh finance officials in London next week.

Meanwhile, as the flood waters recede, millions of people are returning to find their homes washed away and their pitiful few possessions destroyed.

Mr Timothy Renton, Minister of State at the Home Office, arrived in Dhaka yesterday for talks on problems faced by Bangladeshis trying to emigrate to Britain.

Reports, page 22

Exam results

Degree results from Glasgow University and further London University degrees are published today..... Page 13

City casualty

Another executive has resigned from Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, in the aftermath of the Guinness investigation. The bank advised Guinness during the Distillers takeover..... Page 23

Portfolio

● The £8,000 weekly prize in The Times Portfolio Gold competition was won by Mr D. Galleigh, of Chatham, Kent, and the £8,000 in the daily competition, double the usual amount as there was no winner on Friday, was shared by six readers. Details, page 3.
● Portfolio list, page 27.

INDEX

Home News	2-5
Overseas	7-9
Business	23-27
Sport	34-38
Arts	18
Births, deaths, marriages	17
City Diary	25
Court	32-33
Crème de la Crème	10-22
Crosswords	14
Diary	16
Educational	28-31
Entertainments	20
Features	10, 14, 18
Information	20
Law Report	15
Leading articles	15
Letters	18
Nature notes	18
Obituary	16
Religion	16
Sale room	4
Schools	16
Science	21
TV & Radio	17
Weather	22

Miners vote for ban on overtime

Roland Rudd

Leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers' last night gave British Coal a 15-day deadline to negotiate an acceptable code of conduct or face an indefinite national ban on overtime.

The decision came after a seven-hour meeting of the NUM executive on the eve of the TUC Congress in Blackpool. The executive voted 18-4 in favour of the decision.

Mr Arthur Scargill, the NUM president, said: "We don't want industrial action, we want a negotiated settlement."

The vote by the NUM came in spite of concessions made yesterday by British Coal.

Mr Kevan Hunt, British Coal's head of industrial relations, told Mr Peter Heathfield, NUM secretary, in a confidential letter that miners attending disciplinary hearings would be allowed to be represented by a union official of their choice, even if the man had been dismissed and had not been re-employed.

British Coal's retreat on this point was seen as an attempt to persuade more moderate members of the NUM executive not to back Mr Scargill's demand for industrial action.

However, the miners' leader persuaded his executive that the code remained unacceptable and that industrial action was the only way to force



Mr Arthur Scargill: Won the support of his executive.

British Coal to withdraw it entirely.

Mr Scargill said the code was "a charter for getting rid of union activists". He was disappointed at the management's response.

British Coal condemned the decision as being a recipe for disaster.

A spokesman said: "It is madness to believe you can hurt British Coal without hurting the miners. A fight that hurts us most hurt their future. It is clear that Mr Scargill does not believe that this is the last call for disaster."

The taking of industrial action was supported by 77 per cent of NUM members who voted in a national ballot two weeks ago.

UK bid for EEC office may fail

By Our Political Editor

Britain is in danger of losing an EEC office that could generate up to 3,000 jobs in London.

The EEC is to bring into effect in 1990 a unified trade mark system and Britain, as the second biggest contributor to the EEC budget and as yet without a single EEC institution sited here, had been the favourite to gain the new Community Trade Mark office.

The British submission for the new office, a site at St Katharine's, the Tower, London, has been unofficially shortlisted with sites in Munich, Madrid, and The Hague. But campaigners for the British bid are alarmed that Britain's chances are slipping.

Lord Cockfield, one of Britain's two EEC Commissioners, is understood, to Mrs Thatcher's fury, to have recommended that the new office should go to The Hague.

A decision is expected from the Council of Ministers in the next two or three months.

The trade mark office would offer only about 200-300 jobs directly, but the associated legal business involved can be expected to multiply that figure by as much as ten 10 times.

Mr Iain Mills, MP for Meriden and chairman of the Community Trade Mark Committee, this weekend criticized the other bidders for offering financial inducements.

Mr Mills said: "Over-promotion by our competitors and the strong feeling that Britain doesn't have any major European institutions ensures that if justice is done it will be London."

He has requested a meeting with Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, as soon as the Commons resumes.

Pretoria swaps 133 for major

From Nicholas Beeston Johannesburg

The largest prisoner exchange in southern African history takes place today in Maputo when almost 140 men from four countries will be repatriated.

The swap involves the release of a captured South African soldier, Major Wynand du Toit, from Angola in return for at least 133 Angolan government troops held by the Pretoria-backed Unita rebel group in southern Angola.

In addition, South Africa will hand over two European nationals with links to the outlawed African National Congress, French prisoner, M Pierre-André Albertini, who is serving a four-year sentence in the Ciskei homeland, and Mr Klaas de Jonge a Dutch fugitive, who has been living in his embassy's annex in Pretoria's hero, page 9

Palestinians learn the lesson of fatal Sabbath

From Robert Fisk west Beirut

Thirty heavily armed guerrillas bearing a wreath from Abu Nidal, the leader of the most ruthless and extreme of all Palestinian factions, the Fatah Revolutionary Command, yesterday led thousands of mourners to the funeral of 30 of the 49 victims of Israel's bloodiest air raid on southern Lebanon in five years.

The obsequies followed a grimly familiar pattern for the thousands of shocked Palestinians who walked beside the ambulances carrying the broken remains of the dead to the burial ground outside the Ein el-Hilweh camp east of Sidon.

Black flags hung throughout the slums of the camp and anti-aircraft shells were fired into the sky as the

dead were interred in a mass grave not far from where they were killed on Saturday in an air raid that lasted only 10 minutes.

The Palestinians who died - the majority of them were guerrillas - made the fatal mistake of falling into a routine. The Israelis never staged air strikes on Saturdays, the Jewish Sabbath, and the Palestinians were in the habit, on that one day of the week, of relaxing in their offices and cheap concrete buildings which serve them as military headquarters. So they did not scatter into the olive groves and low hills for protection, as they did on other days of the week - and when the Israeli jets swept in over the Mediterranean they were doomed. The few who tried to take cover when they heard the planes were cut to pieces by

shrapnel in the fields outside.

As usual, the Israeli raid was not entirely accurate. At least one Israeli bomb fell on the home of a group of civilian Palestinians, killing four women and four children. Several rockets exploded amid the olive trees, killing Lebanese farmers. Two others smashed buildings belonging to guerrillas of the Abu Nidal extremist faction and to Mr Yasser Arafat's main PLO Fatah movement, burying their occupants under tons of rubble.

For several minutes after the raid, PLO men extracted wounded colleagues from the shattered concrete, but the death toll ultimately exceeded that of the wounded. Bodies were lined up in the mortuary of the Hammoud hospital in Sidon for identification, one of them a young

woman, most of the others young men. Several of the Lebanese victims were buried beside the Palestinians yesterday, the Lebanese flag flying alongside the Palestinian banner at the graveside.

That the Israelis had struck hard at the guerrillas - in what they referred to as a "pre-emptive raid" against "those who were planning attacks on Israel" - was only too evident at the funeral. Hundreds of young gunmen fired off automatic rifles near the cemetery and many of the ambulances were adorned with PLO banners.

Such success as the Israelis may claim for their raid, however, will have to be tempered with the certainty that the PLO or Abu Nidal's group will seek revenge.

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NEWS SUMMARY

Dartford Tunnel suffers corrosion

Salt corrosion is attacking the Dartford Tunnel where the M25 runs under the Thames and forms what is possibly Britain's biggest traffic bottleneck. About 80,000 vehicles pass through it every day.

The corrosion, which affects many motorway bridges and other such structures, was discovered during a routine survey by Mott, Hay and Anderson, the consulting engineers who will now carry out a full examination.

Mr Alan Hobson, assistant general manager of the tunnel, said the corrosion did not constitute an immediate problem. It had been detected early. The report indicated that the problem would not require attention within the next five years, although it would be dealt with sooner.

He believed that any remedial work that proved necessary could be done at night to avoid any increase in delays to motorists using the tunnel.

Motorway report, page 5

Book spending falls

Spending on books and equipment by independent schools was double that of state schools per pupil last year, according to the Educational Publishers' Council.

After inflation, state primary schools had £9 million less to spend on books in 1985-6 than in 1984-5. Secondary schools had more than £12 million less to spend than in 1984-5, a loss of up to £1.11 per head.

Spending totalled £123.20 a head in independent secondary schools; the state school total was £56.10. The figures for the primary sector were £55.80 and £92.10 respectively.

Pilot dies in glider

A trainee pilot died yesterday when his powered glider crashed seconds after take-off. His instructor escaped with slight injuries.

Mr John Hawkins, aged 47, a communications officer with Townsend Thoresen, took off from the Channel Gliding Club, Whitfield, near Dover, Kent, with chief flying instructor John Salt, the co-owner of the club.

The glider banked sharply and plunged into a wood.

Double murder

Police believe that a burglar was responsible for the murder of an elderly couple, Francis Waters, aged 86, and his wife, Katherine, aged 84, who were suffocated in their home in Lustrale Close, Saldaen, East Sussex.

Det Supt Gordon Harrison, leading an investigation involving 70 officers, said the couple had been burgled on August 22.

"There is evidence that Mrs Waters was killed during the first burglary and may have seen the person responsible."

A blind eye to crime

Half of adults would inform the police of someone handling stolen property and 68 per cent would inform on someone suspected of selling cannabis, according to a BBC Broadcasting Research Department's survey of attitudes to the police among 3,690 adults.

The survey found that 83 per cent would contact police if they suspected a neighbour of abusing a child. Only 34 per cent of the unemployed would tell the police of someone handling stolen goods and 51 per cent if they suspected someone of selling cannabis.

A startling drop in the number of people who would contact the police was found in Northern Ireland.

Crime falling, page 5

Chauffeur attacked

Sir Geoffrey Howe's chauffeur was recovering yesterday after being injured in a mugging attempt.

Mr Peter Smithson, aged 54, suffered a cut to the neck after three men grabbed him and began demanding money as he went to collect the car near the La Residence restaurant in Holland Park, west London, on Saturday night.

The Foreign Secretary (right) had been dining there with Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, and others.



Dim view of women

Lord Spencer, father of the Princess of Wales, believes that "most women are bird-brained", but has spared his second wife, Raine, daughter of the author Barbara Cartland, from the generalization.

"It is rare to find a woman with very good mental agility, which she's got. In our case, marriage has been better the second time around", the earl, aged 63, says in an interview with *Woman* magazine, published today. He adds that he is "the boss" in the marriage.

He does not remark on his daughter's intellectual ability, but says: "She's very natural, Diana. Whatever she does, she does very well. She tries very hard to make a success of her job and she has. I'm very proud of her."

Auditors study legal action against rate rebels

By David Walker
Public Administration
Correspondent

District auditors are investigating the possibility of prosecution against 200 Labour councillors in London two years after the councillors delayed a budget in protest against rate capping by the Conservative Government.

The councillors still face surcharge and disqualification from office, the Audit Commission confirmed yesterday.

"The district auditors are gathering evidence to establish whether there has been a

loss of cash, and whether it was done wilfully", a commission spokesman said.

There was no statute of limitations on prosecution of councillors who have spent public money illegally, he said.

The councillors include Mr Neil Kinnock's aide, Mr Charles Clarke, and Mrs Margaret Hodge, of Islington, chairman of the Association of London Authorities.

The London district auditor recently sent letters to the councillors in Camden and Southwark who were in office

in the spring of 1985 asking for details of how they cast their votes.

He also announced the opening of public hearings into events in 1985 in Islington and Hackney.

A team of auditors is working on the four London councils, all Labour controlled. The length of the delay before a legal rate was made is different in each.

In Hackney, where Mr Clarke was a councillor until the 1986 borough elections, the council believed it had the backing of a High Court judge

for its stand. In all the boroughs, only those councillors who voted for delaying the rate face prosecution.

In his letter to Camden councillors, Mr Brian Skinner, the London district auditor, said he thought there had been "losses in the accounts" for 1985, but had yet to establish whether they were caused deliberately.

A similar letter has caused consternation among Conservative as well as Labour councillors in Southwark.

Between March and May 1985, Conservatives had vo-

ted against motions that would have produced a rate figure and a budget on the grounds that they contained unacceptable wording critical of the Prime Minister. In theory that action could lay them open to prosecution.

If the district audit team decides to prosecute, legal moves will take the form of the successful actions against Labour councillors in Lambeth, south London, and Liverpool, who also delayed making a legal rate.

Last March the House of Lords dismissed an appeal by the Liverpool councillors,

leading to the expulsion of Mr Derek Hatton, a Militant, from his council position.

In 1985, a number of Labour councillors delayed setting a rate for the financial year 1985-86 until after it began on April 1. They faced the accusation that they had lost revenue and the interest. But the law specifies that councillors must have acted "wilfully".

The district auditor for London is investigating Southwark council over the loss of £7 million paid out in settlement of a planning dispute.

US contract for British mine fighter vessels likely

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The dangers facing warships and merchant vessels in the Gulf have created a worldwide interest in British minesweeping expertise. It emerged yesterday.

Senior defence officials at the Royal Navy's Equipment Exhibition in Portsmouth, which opens today, disclosed that even the Americans might turn to Britain to buy new minesweepers.

Discussions are under way with the Americans for the possible purchase of the new Hunt Class mine counter measure vessels, four of which are within eight days of reaching the Gulf to join the Royal Navy's Armilla Patrol.

The Americans have been caught out by the mine threat in the Gulf because their minesweeping force consists of just four ageing vessels. The Pentagon had to send the sophisticated high-technology Sea Stallion mine counter measure helicopters to operate in the northern end of the Gulf.

Although it is too early to predict an order from the US, which would be an unprecedented breakthrough in defence sales between Britain and America, purpose-built minesweepers "off the production line" could be made available.

Vosper Thornycroft, the shipbuilders, are building the last two of 12 Hunt Class minesweepers. One is due for launching in the new year.

If the Americans were interested, they could be sold to them and the Royal Navy would have to place an order for two more to complete its Hunt Class fleet.

The first of five single-role minesweepers, Sandown, is also due to be launched by Vosper's early next year.

Mr Russell Osborn, sales director of Vosper's, said at the exhibition that the Gulf war would be "the burning topic" throughout the week.

Despite the focus of interest on the Gulf and the threat to shipping, neither Iran nor Iraq is among the 78 countries sending delegates to the exhibition because the vast majority of new equipment on display is not for sale to either country.

Minesweeping equipment is on the banned list. It was confirmed yesterday.

Mr Colin Chandler, head of Defence Export Services at the Ministry of Defence, said that the sale of mine counter measure vessels and equipment to Iran or Iraq would be "proscribed".

However, many countries,

including Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, France and The Netherlands are seeking British expertise and equipment. Even China has shown an interest.

Mr Terry Timms, of BAJ, a company based in Weston-super-Mare, said that he was amazed at the number of countries which had asked to send delegates to see their minesweeping equipment. The company produces a mechanical sweep system for detecting moored mines, the main threat in the Gulf.

Vosper Thornycroft has also just produced, after years of development for the Royal Navy, a new system called Sea Serpent for detecting magnetic and acoustic mines which lie on the sea bed and detonate when a ship passes overhead.

The £250,000 Sea Serpent is like "a string of sausages", a line of magnetic containers that copies the "signature" of a warship and helps to set off the mines.

Admiral Derek Reffell, Controller of the Navy, rejected suggestions that merchant ships operating in the Gulf should be armed with defensive systems.

He said: "I don't think it's a practical proposition to arm merchant vessels to such an extent that it would make it unnecessary to have warships in the Gulf."

● The Royal Navy's problem with a new command and control system for its latest warship, the Type 23 frigate, is jeopardizing a £560 million export deal with Pakistan, defence sources said.

Pakistan wants to buy three of the Type 23 frigates, with two to be built in Britain.

The Pakistanis have told the British Government that they want to buy what the Royal Navy is being offered, including the command and control system and the weapons.

But the computerized system originally on offer was the Cacs4, designed by Ferranti, which has been cancelled by the Ministry of Defence.

Two defence consortia, Ferranti with Logica systems designs and Plessey, with Software Sciences, are competing for the contract. But the Ministry of Defence has had to give them 12 months to come up with a project definition.

Officials from Ferranti Computer Systems admitted yesterday that it would take another two years after that before their new system, known as CS500, would be ready to install in the Type 23.

Iranians expelled, page 7

Sharp eyes seek a stray sandpiper



Birdwatchers armed with powerful binoculars flocked in their hundreds to Sandwich Bay Observatory in Kent yesterday to catch a glimpse of a wading bird that has been recorded in Britain only 20 times in 200 years.

The sharp-tailed sandpiper (left) must have lost its way during the long autumn migration from its summer home in north-eastern Siberia to the more comfortable winter climate of the Pacific.

Five-time finalist a champion

Cleveland County Council's budget officer beat five former champions to win the 1987 Times/Collins Dictionaries Crossword Championship at the Park Lane Hotel, central London, yesterday.

A finalist five times before, Mr William Pilkington, aged 39, of Clevegate, Nanturpe, Middlesbrough, entered as Leeds champion. Success was due to a mind capable of "making order out of chaos". His average time on the four puzzles was 11 mins 30 secs.

Dr John Sykes, eight times champion, was equal fifth. Runner-up was Mr Jim Roberts, an English teacher at Kirkham Grammar School, Mr Roy Dean, former Deputy High Commissioner of Ghana and the first champion in 1970, came third.

Other winners were: Mr Michael Macdonald-Copper, Scottish champion from Inverness, Perthshire. Equal fifth was Mr Nicholas Mitchell, of Willesden Green, London.

Seventh was Mr Michael Wareham, headmaster of New Park School, St Andrews, and last year's national champion, while eighth was Mr Paul Best, from Harriet, Berkshire.

Prizes, including the winner's engraved crystal jug and a £500 Harrods gift voucher, were presented by Mr Peter Stothard, deputy editor of *The Times*.

First merger talks for party leaders

By Kerry Gill

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader and Mr Robert MacLennan, the newly elected leader of the Social Democratic Party, yesterday said they hoped a merger between the two parties could take place by next spring.

The two held preliminary talks on a possible merger over lunch at the home of Lord Tanlaw of Tanlawhill, Dumfries, in the Scottish borders yesterday.

Afterwards, Mr Steel said it had been a straightforward meeting and no detailed discussions on policies had taken place.

"This was the first opportunity for us to review events since the SDP ballot and before the Liberal assembly at Harrogate", Mr Steel said.

The two leaders held an impromptu news conference outside the Hart Manor Hotel, near Eskdalemuir, Dumfries.

"We are both determined that the talks in which we hope to embark will be positive and creative in forming an effective and electable alternative to Government for the post-Thatcher period."

Mr Steel said he was certain that the two parties could come to an agreement over the defence issue, but emphasized: "That has to be a matter for the proper policy-making processes."

Both men felt confident that

an agreement on a merger could be made by next May's Scottish local authority elections.

Mr MacLennan said it was their first meeting since the SDP ballot. "We needed the opportunity for a general review. We are both anxious to get the show on the road as soon as possible."

Mr Steel said much would depend on what decisions the Liberal assembly took, but he was hoping for a "constructive" atmosphere at Harrogate.

"Our task is to discuss the framework of the negotiations that will start properly after the assembly", he said.

Both leaders agreed that yesterday's discussions went well and no difficulties had arisen.

Mr Steel said he looked forward to substantial progress on the talks by the end of the year.

"We must also realize that the interests of both parties must be resolved on these matters as soon as we can", Mr MacLennan said, referring to the defence issue. Any policy would have to be acceptable to both the Liberals and the Social Democrats.

Mr Steel said: "I am quite certain we will have the show on the road in the new year. We have known each other a long time."

ITN offer to 'buy' plans deal

A television company was invited to "buy" council planning permission for office redevelopment in a Labour-run north London borough with a £700,000 contribution to a business run by printers dismissed by News International, the building's owners.

Camden Council confirmed last night that such an arrangement had been suggested to Independent Television News, but that when officials heard of it they ruled it "improper".

A senior member of the planning authority had since resigned. The authority was unable say whether the employee's departure and an internal investigation into the "deal" were linked.

ITN sought planning approval this year for a £50 million satellite broadcasting centre on the site of the former *Sunday Times* building in Gray's Inn Road, which News International put on the market after moving to Wapping, east London.

Mr Mike Morris, ITN's managing editor, said yesterday: "There is no doubt that the council officials who were dealing with us suggested the question of a contribution to the printers' trust."

"It is difficult to reach any other conclusion in the context of our discussions than the idea of a contribution was a deal."

Mr Peter Skolar, Conservative opposition leader on the council, said at the weekend that if an intention to bribe was proved by the council's internal investigation, he "would have no hesitation in calling in police."

When the approach was made to ITN in May, council officials informed the employment committee, which had been sympathetic to the print workers' project, the Camden Design, Printing, Communication and Training Group.

The council said: "As soon as the chief executive was notified he advised that it would be improper. It went no further."

ITN is still seeking planning approval. The redevelopment scheme is due to be considered by the council on September 23.

The inner cities

Top firms follow Government's lead

By Paul Eastham

At least 48 top companies have joined the Government's campaign to regenerate the inner cities.

ICI, British Telecom, Tarmac and the National Westminster Bank have answered the call by Lord Young of Grafton, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, for the private sector to lead the revival programme.

The department said the response was "extremely encouraging", considering the campaign was at the experimental stage and offers were still arriving.

Projects range from Tarmac's involvement in a

£1.6 million-refurbishment of Victorian houses in Handsworth, Birmingham, employing and training 70 local young people, to the personal accounts division of the clothing retailer, Burton Group, offering six months' training for 12 long-term unemployed from Chapeltown, Leeds.

Trustee Savings Bank seconded an executive, Mr Ian Rosser, to run Tower Hamlets' inner city task force, which has been given £1 million a year to revive a depressed part of east London.

British American Tobacco is making a video film promoting the 16 task forces and has seconded a senior

manager, Mr Brian Hutchinson, to be deputy head of the Whitehall-based Central Unit, co-ordinating the task forces.

Eso is training long-term unemployed people in computing at its headquarters in London.

Several banks are setting up development funds to lend cash to inner city firms: Nat West for Bristol and Birmingham; Barclays for Manchester and Middlesbrough; Midland for North Kensington in London; Lloyds for North Peckham in London; and Yorkshire Bank for Leeds.

Five days a month Mr Graham Hay forsakes his desk as a manager at the Middles-

brough branch of Price Waterhouse accountants, to join Civil Service staff at the Middlesbrough task force office.

Other companies involved include: Ford Motor Company; J Sainsbury; KP Foods; BBC; Channel Four; Rank Organisation; Yorkshire Post; Middlesbrough FC; Ideal Homes; Rusjon; Sir Robert McAlpine; John Laing; Association of British Insurers; Royal Insurance; Commercial Union; Industrial Society; Dickson Robinson Group; Hewlett Packard; South West Gas; Arthur Andersen; British Caledonian Hotels; Bristol and West Building Society.

Scientists struggle to close gaps in ozone treaty

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Talks are going on this week to resolve difficulties that have put in jeopardy an expected global agreement to curb pollution.

Scientists are due to meet in Montreal, Canada, next Monday to draw up the agreement, but negotiations to resolve obstacles to it are still going on.

The treaty, to be signed by the world's leading industrial countries, is intended to stop destruction of the

Earth's protective ozone layer by man-made chemicals. A hole in the layer has grown steadily and now covers an area almost the size of the United States.

Government scientists from the United States, Canada, Russia, Europe, Japan and Scandinavia will be asked to sanction regulations that will eventually stop the use of the various compounds that are threatening the layer.

A immediate freeze on the manufacture and exports of the compounds,

known as chlorofluorocarbons, is called for in a convention prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme.

Additional controls after 1992 would start further cuts in production. The dispute confronting the technical experts is about the amount and rate of the cuts.

Japan and the Soviet Union, two big producers, are the most reluctant to accept a need for cuts.

The layer of ozone in the upper part of the atmosphere, 25 km to 50 km

above the Earth, acts as a filter, stopping most of the harmful ultraviolet radiation from the Sun.

Chlorofluorocarbons, a family of chlorine-containing substances, known by their initials as CFCs, react violently with the ozone molecules.

The scientists estimate that they are being discharged into the environment five times faster than nature can remove them. In addition, the CFC molecules are catalysts that destroy the ozone molecules while remaining intact themselves.

MONTILLA

SOME OF SPAIN'S most popular wines come from Montilla, near the Moorish city of Córdoba, in Andalucía.

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Government expert opposes national written maths tests

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

The Government's plans to introduce a national system of school "benchmark" tests at seven, 11 and 14 have received a severe blow from an expert commissioned to study the issue by the Department of Education and Science.

Dr Margaret Brown, a specialist in maths assessment at London University, has concluded after a 10-month feasibility study that in maths — and, she believes, in other subjects — national written tests are of "little educational value" and will be of limited use for judging ability.

Her research has not yet been released in detail, but she is going to recommend that the Government drops the idea.

Dr Brown is also a member of the committee for maths set up by Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education, as part of the development of a national curriculum.

She said yesterday that her findings were not part of the committee's work.

But her study will have deep implications for it, as Mr Baker has urged it to find a suitable national test.

Dr Brown said on London Weekend Television: "The only test that could be easily implemented on a wide scale would be a written test, and we are fairly clear that there is very little educational value in written tests."

"Some children do badly in

written tests as a matter of course. This makes it difficult for teachers to use the test results diagnostically, to find children's strengths and weaknesses.

"But the most important problem with a national test is its effect on the curriculum, which is likely to be brought down to the test level as children spend the whole time practising written tests."

"This is seen in Northern Ireland, where primary school children spend an enormous amount of time practising the 11-plus."

In languages and sciences, she added, written tests would clash with the current bias towards oral and practical methods.

The only fair testing scheme, she said, would be practical problem-solving exercises of a far more complex nature than would be suitable for national co-ordination.

She has also suggested that local authorities and teachers should be free to choose what form of assessment they prefer from a national assessment "resource bank".

Dr Brown's study was commissioned under Sir Keith Joseph, Mr Baker's predecessor at the Department of Education and Science, before the Education Secretary announced his intention of introducing national tests.

"As the Minister has be-

come more prescriptive, we have had more difficulty completing the study. The goal posts keep being moved", she said.

● Pupils with word processors at home can earn higher grades in GCSE English because their essays look more authoritative, even if they are full of spelling and grammatical errors, according to a Sheffield University researcher.

The study by Dr Michael Peacock may have a critical effect on guidelines soon to be issued to examining boards.

Dr Peacock gave handwritten and word-processed versions of four genuine English literature and English language essays to more than 400 experienced teachers to grade.

Word-processed copies consistently received higher marks than the hand-written essays.

Dr Peacock said yesterday: "The printed essays look more authoritative; teachers are used to seeing in printed form work that has been thoroughly corrected by professionals."

Although Dr Peacock believes that word-processors are good for children because they "release" their writing ability, he is concerned that only those from high-income families are able to exercise the unfair advantage attached to them.



Four classic Wolseley cars form the centrepiece of an exhibition which was put together to brighten up the new and souless headquarters of a London traffic unit. It depicts the history of the police's work with traffic and was the brainchild of Sgt Ray Seal when he was in the force. Lee traffic police moved to a joint

headquarters in Catford, south-east London, 18 months ago. The corridors, offices, underground garage and foyer of the South East Traffic Unit in Aitken Road are festooned with uniforms and road signs which date back to the 1930s. Sgt Seal is with a 1944 Wolseley 12/48, previously a Scottish police car bought

from Pinewood Studios, Buckinghamshire, a 1951 6/80, one of the first to carry a roof-mounted public address system, a 1956 6/90, former Metropolitan Police car and a 1963 6/110, one of the first police cars to have an automatic gear box, blue lights and two-tone siren. (Photograph: Nick Rogers)

Honda executive car shock

Porsche develops secret Rover engine

By Daniel Ward
Motor Industry
Correspondent

An advanced Porsche engine has been developed secretly for Austin Rover which could replace the Honda engine in Rover's 800 executive model and the forthcoming luxury coupe to rival Jaguar and BMW.

The engine, codenamed KV6, is one of the lightest six cylinder engines to be developed and could be produced cheaply because its modular design is based on Austin Rover's new K series engine for the 1990 Metro model.

Production could be shared on the robotic manufacturing equipment soon to be installed at Longbridge.

Sources reveal that Austin Rover had not told Honda it was developing a rival to the Japanese V6 engine, though the two companies shared the design and development of the Rover 800 and sister Honda Legend. Throughout that five-and-a-half year collaboration, the Honda engine had been intended for the Rover 800.

However, the British executives feared that engine would have insufficient power for a flagship executive car. Those fears were realized when the Honda engine had to

be redesigned during its development and further improvements are now imminent.

In 1985, the company decided to work on a Rover engine. Porsche was commissioned to produce the design and two weeks ago one of the six prototypes was run for the first time.

It is understood that the KV6 is both lighter and more powerful than Porsche's own similar engine and the rival Honda V6.

KV6's future appears uncertain. Austin Rover executives are now faced either

with the cost of replacing the Honda V6 with the new engine to strengthen the company's intention to move up the market, or selling the complete design to a rival car maker. The company declined to comment.

● Land Rover today announce record UK monthly sales. Registrations of Range Rovers in August were 1,071 — 34 per cent above the previous monthly record in August last year and Land Rover registrations were the second highest monthly total for more than 12 years at 818. The combined UK sales total

of 1,889 was the best monthly sales performance since the company was formed nearly 40 years ago.

A delighted Mr Tony Gilroy, managing director, said: "Range Rover is also breaking all records in France, Spain and Italy."

● Jaguar Cars also set sales records last month. The 5,208 Jaguar and Daimler cars sold worldwide during August were 47 per cent more than the same month last year, the first time the company has sold more than 5,000 cars, worth over £125 million, in a month.

High costs drive motorists to DIY

Many British motorists are shunning expensive garages by doing their own car servicing or asking friends to do it, according to a survey.

More than 60 per cent of motorists have their cars serviced regularly — but of that proportion, almost 40 per cent, mostly men, do not have the work done professionally.

More than half think garages overcharge. About 40 per cent also doubt that garages carry out all the work they claim, the survey, commissioned by SMC, the chain of fast-fit motor centres, shows.

Of those who have their cars serviced professionally, most are loyal to one particular outlet and most say they seek out AA-approved garages or motorist centres.

More than two-thirds of all motorists know what their tyre pressure should be, but only 46 per cent of women. Most check their tyres and tread every two to four weeks, Northerners more frequently.

Fast personal attention and a replacement car for the day are the two most important benefits people would like to see offered by garages, the survey found.

Services such as comfortable waiting rooms and "while you wait" repairs are most important to women.

Assurance and accountability have also become increasingly important. The failure of the motor industry to provide that has caused more motorists to carry out car servicing and repairs themselves, the marketing manager of SMC, Mr Martyn Paul, says.

"This is bad news for the industry and the motorist, because DIY servicing is hardly ideal car care."

Baker may rule in battle over school

By Our Education Reporter

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, may decide today to step in personally in the dispute between parents and Kirkcaldy education authority over the right to choose their children's school.

He has been asked by the parents and Mr John Whitfield, former Conservative MP for Dewsbury, for a quick decision on the dispute which has cost the 26 children three days' schooling.

Parents whose children are already at the school favoured by the 26 rebel parents, Overthorpe Middle School in Dewsbury, have called off a planned classroom boycott today because of warnings from the local education authority that they could be prosecuted.

But Mrs Avril Carter, a mother of two, who won her appeal to send her younger child to Overthorpe instead of the 93 per cent Asian Headfield Middle School, said yesterday that she will "walk into the school and take my children out of lessons" if the 26 children at the centre of the dispute are not admitted this morning.

The parents complain that education at Headfield suffers because of the high proportion of non-English speaking children and that Christianity is not

given sufficient emphasis.

A Muslim parents' group in Bradford which is campaigning for Muslim voluntary-aided schools has stated its support.

The rebel parents were determined yesterday to make another attempt this morning to gain an entrance for their children at Overthorpe. On Friday they were turned away by the head, Mr Gordon Hirst.

Mr Riaz Shahid, general secretary of the 200-strong Muslim Parents' Association of Bradford, said that the Dewsbury parents' battle highlighted the Muslims' own campaign to assert their right to denominational schools.

He quoted Mrs Margaret Thatcher as saying in 1983 that it was the "legal right" of the Muslims to have denominational schools as Roman Catholics and Jews now do.

● The Dewsbury parents' protest has been copied in Northamptonshire by six families whose children have been refused places at Weavers' School, Wellingborough, the comprehensive school of their choice.

The parents have taken their children to the school gates each morning since term began last week.

Leading article, page 15

Graduate prospects 'booming'

Job prospects for university graduates are still booming, according to figures released today by the University Grants Committee (Our Education Reporter writes).

Last December, only 7.3 per cent of new graduates were still unemployed, compared with 8.6 per cent the previous year and 13.5 per cent in 1981.

But unemployment rates continue to be high among graduates of certain subjects: notably librarianship and other forms of information science (21 per cent), astronomy (20), philosophy (18), sociology (16), and botany and anthropology (15).

In contrast, only 3 per cent of graduates in architecture, building, accountancy, social policy and administration were believed to be unemployed at Christmas.

The statistics show more graduates are being attracted to commerce (32 per cent) compared with industry (29), reversing the trend of previous years. Fewer graduates took further training after their degrees, especially teacher training which dropped by 11 per cent over the previous year.

There are now just over half as many graduates taking teacher training as in 1981 and 70 per cent are women.

Grade defends record on TV violence

British television is far less violent than in the past, Mr Michael Grade, BBC director of programmes, says. But Mrs Mary Whitehouse, the television campaigner, says the BBC is breaking its code of conduct on violence.

"The BBC and the IBA have clearly defined codes on violence, but they're not fulfilled", Mrs Whitehouse says in an article published in *Woman* magazine, today.

Mr Grade said television was being made a scapegoat. "Violence for entertainment's sake has almost been eliminated. Shows like *Bergerac* and *Minder* are considerably less violent than their equivalents in the Seventies."

● Mr Robin Corbett, Labour spokesman on home affairs, has protested to the BBC over the appointment of Mr Howell James as director of corporate affairs. Mr Corbett said Mr James was a "poodle" of the Prime Minister.

Credit card debts are rising by 25% a year

Credit card spending in Britain took debts to more than £5.2 billion by the end of last year and outstanding balances are growing by 25 per cent a year, according to market analysis by Mintel.

More than one person in three has a credit card and the report predicts that penetration could reach 60 per cent by the 1990s.

Credit card spending represents more than 7 per cent of overall expenditure, compared with 4 per cent five years ago.

Bank credit cards are used mostly for motoring expenses, accounting for 20 per cent of spending, followed by clothing, travel and electrical goods.

In consumer surveys for the report, 33 per cent of men and 27 per cent of women said they used a credit card, with 25 per cent using Visa.

Mintel forecasts that general purpose "smart" cards, with

microchip data storage which automatically debit holders' accounts, will replace most non-cash payments. In Europe smart cards have also helped to reduce fraud.

The report expects the Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry into credit card operations to cut bank and retail credit account interest rates.

Credit Cards, in Personal Finance Intelligence, Volume 3, 1987 (Mintel, 7 Arundel Street, London, WC2R 3DR, £195)

● A debt collection agency accused of oppressive and threatening methods is to be investigated by Barclays Bank and Access, two of its foremost customers.

Allied Collection Agencies, of Twickenham, is under investigation by the Office of Fair Trading, which was passed a dossier of complaints compiled by trading standards officers at Camden Borough Council, north London.

Witnesses call after eight killed

Lancashire police last night launched an urgent appeal for a key witness to the weekend's M6 tragedy to come forward. Eight people died when an articulated lorry was in collision with a minibus and two cars between junctions 34 and 35 near Lancaster.

The police said that they are anxious to trace a woman who was driving a Mini saloon car. "She had long, straight hair and we believe she may be tall, because she was sitting upright", said a police spokesman.

"We would like to hear from her and also from any other witnesses."

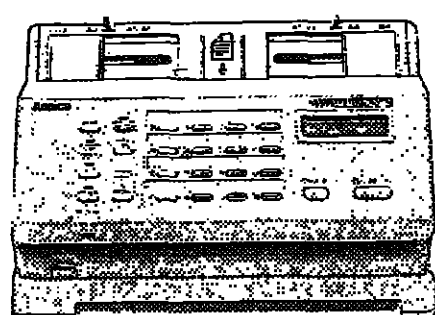
Seven of the dead were climbers from the mill town of Halifax travelling in the minibus on one of their popular weekend trips.

The name of the eighth victim was published yesterday, Mr Ronald Lucas, aged 52, of Marsh, Huddersfield, was one of the minibus passengers. Seven men in the minibus died together with a woman in one of the cars. Eight people were seriously injured.

The accident happened when the lorry broke through the cones separating it from traffic heading in the other direction in a two-mile contraflow system. A full police report on the crash will be sent to the Department of Transport.

Motorway report, page 5

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TUC CONFERENCE

Extremists run unions say half the members

By Tim Jones

As union leaders meet in Blackpool today against a background of bitter ideological conflict and a crisis of falling membership, almost half their members, 48 per cent, believe unions are controlled by extremists and militants.

The finding, in a MORI poll conducted for Times Newspapers, also shows that only 35 per cent disagreed, with the remainder being undecided.

When the question was asked in 1979 after the spate of strikes which became known as the "winter of discontent", 59 per cent of members thought extremists were in control (see graph).

But when asked whether their own union was controlled by extremists and militants, only 13 per cent thought that to be the case with 70 per cent disagreeing and 17 per cent having no opinion.

● If an election were held today 48% say they would vote for Tories ●

Rank-and-file members, the poll shows, are also at odds with their leadership which tends overwhelmingly to support the Labour Party.

By a majority of 52 per cent to 34 per cent, with the remainder undecided, the members believe the party should not be so closely linked with the unions. Significantly, a third of trade unionists who support Labour also took that view.

That trend is borne out by the finding which shows that

at the last election the majority of them did not vote for what has been perceived as their natural party.

Forty-two per cent voted Labour, 30 per cent Conservative, 26 per cent for the SDP-Liberal Alliance and 2 per cent for other parties.

By contrast, 55 per cent of trade union members voted Labour in 1974 when the Labour Party last gained office.

The figures become more alarming for the union leaders when they consider that four in ten of their members are middle class and if an election were to be held today 48 per cent of them would vote Conservative, 36 per cent Labour and 16 per cent Alliance.

That mirrors almost exactly the present voting intention among the general public as a whole.

The declining number of working class trade unionists, who form the traditional bedrock of the movement, would vote two to one in favour of the Labour Party.

Perceptions about the life-style of trade union members are challenged by the findings, which show that 80 per cent of them own their own homes, (9 per cent more than the public generally), 86 per cent are on the telephone (83), and only 16 per cent live in council houses (24).

Leadership assumptions that the rank and file share their hostility towards proposed government legislation to strengthen the rights of individual members are also denied by the poll.

It shows that nearly half the members, 47 per cent, favour government proposals to give them legal protection if they refuse to join a strike even if a majority has voted in favour of a dispute. Only 39 per cent are opposed.

But that is a 14 per cent drop in support among trade unionists since the same question was put to trade union members in a MORI poll for The Times on election day.

● A solid 88% say they believe unions protect workers' interests ●

The latest MORI poll shows also a huge majority of members, seven out of 10, believe the Government would be right in giving individual trade union members the power to stop their unions calling them out on strike if a secret ballot has not been held.

Far from backing the TUC condemnation of the Government's Green Paper on trade union reform which will become law during the term of the present Parliament, the poll shows the majority of members consider some of its main proposals to be justified.

A wide difference in the perception between the leaders and members of the role and influence of the movement in society is demonstrated in answer to the question which asked whether unions have too much power in Britain today.

Whereas 31 per cent of members agreed with the

proposition, with 51 per cent disagreeing, in a separate MORI poll conducted earlier this year, only 6 per cent of union general secretaries and presidents concurred, with 92 per cent of them disagreeing.

While only 39 per cent of members considered that the union movement is in touch, the poll shows that 58 per cent of the leadership believes differently.

In that separate poll of leaders, 58 per cent believe that the large unions have too much control of the TUC and 46 per cent think it would be better for industrial relations in Britain if there were fewer but larger unions.

Only 24 per cent of the leaders think that, by and large, unions have too little control over the actions of their members.

Union leaders consider the main issues facing the movement are: unemployment and redundancy 66 per cent; anti-union legislation 61 per cent; loss of membership 44 per cent; hostile government attitude 27 per cent, declining manufacturing industry 23 per cent; having reduced power 23 per cent and improving trade union image 20 per cent.

But in spite of the differences of opinion between the policy-making leaders and the workers who pay their wages, union members have remained remarkably consistent in wanting the protection of organized labour.

A solid 88 per cent said they believed that trade unions are essential to protect workers' interests. That is identical to

the figure for September 1979 and a 10 per cent increase over November 1955.

There has also been consistency in the number of union members who believe the

● 64% thought their union listened to what the members had to say ●

movement helps to improve the efficiency of British industry. Forty-seven per cent believe that to be true with 31 per cent disagreeing, compared with the figures of 45 per cent and 48 per cent respectively for October 1977. Members, the poll demon-

strates, have a better opinion of their own organization than they do of the movement as a whole.

The majority, 64 per cent, thought their union listened to what the membership had to say, with 24 per cent disagreeing.

Fifty-nine per cent believe their union does a good job of communicating with them, with 30 per cent taking a contrary view. In addition, 63 per cent are satisfied with the services their union provides, with 27 per cent disagreeing.

One strand of comfort for Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, is that his personal standing is increas-

ing, with 40 per cent being satisfied with his leadership and only 30 per cent dissatisfied.

In February 1985, six months after he was elected, the figures were 36 per cent and 42 per cent respectively.

MORI interviewed a representative quota sample of 1,703 adults aged 18 plus in 170 constituency sampling points throughout Great Britain. Of those, 386 were members of unions (23 per cent). Interviews were conducted face-to-face at home between August 21 and 26. Data for the whole sample (1,703) were weighted to match the profile of the population. ©MORI/Times Newspapers

Security tightens in run-up to conference

By Stewart Tindler
Crime Reporter

A complicated and extensive police security operation is gathering pace in Blackpool this week as Lancashire police move into the final preparations for the Conservative Party conference next month.

The TUC conference opening today will give the police plans a dry run before the real thing begins on October 6 when the provincial force of 3,000 men becomes responsible for the safety of the Cabinet and the prevention of a repetition of the Brighton bombing of 1984.

Long before the speculation last week that the IRA may have sent a reconnaissance team to the resort in recent weeks to examine recent targets among ministers, teams of Lancashire officers were already working on conference arrangements.

A team of detectives has been resident in the Imperial Hotel, the conference centre where Mrs Margaret Thatcher will stay; other officers have regularly checked guests lists at other hotels in the resort.

The party conference is a counter terrorist exercise, said Mr Brian Weight, Chief Constable of Dorset and the man responsible for security in Bournemouth last year during the 1986 Conservative conference.

Planning at Blackpool is likely to have begun very early in the year. Dorset started in January last year when a special unit was formed to work with the Conservative Party, local authorities and other police forces.

The unit faced problems covering the searching of buildings, building protection, VIP protection, supplies of firearms for police, extra policing of the town, logistics, transport and communications.

The planning was later compared with the work which goes into a big criminal investigation, including the use of the Police National Computer.

Blackpool is close to ferry ports from Ireland and the west coast is dotted with many small harbours which the IRA is suspected of using in recent years to smuggle activists on to the mainland.

Certainly the IRA is known to have taken an interest in the town, sending Patrick Magee, now convicted as the Brighton bomber, on a reconnaissance mission. The worry now is that he may not have been the only active terrorist to spy out the land.

How King's daughter raised alarm

The terrorist alert at the West Country home of Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, was sparked off after his daughter Elisa spotted two intruders and raised the alarm (Craig Seton writes).

Miss King, aged 25, was riding a horse on the family's farm at Ford, near Chippenham, Wiltshire, last Sunday, while Mr King was on holiday in Scotland with his wife Jane.

The Irish man and woman were arrested. A second man, also Irish, was arrested hours later at the Wooley Hole Campsite.

On Saturday two men and a woman, all with addresses in the Irish Republic, were charged with conspiring to murder Mr King. They will appear amidst intense security today at a special magistrates' court in Chippenham.

The three accused, two men aged 24 and 27 and the woman, aged 22, have not been named.

Sex attack inquiry

Surrey police are investigating an attack on a Moroccan woman abducted in west London by four men, sexually assaulted and dumped in Dorking.

The woman, aged 30, was taken from Westbourne Terrace, Paddington, on Friday. She also suffered a broken nose.

Lost colour prints return to market

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Sale Room Correspondent

More than 100,000 antique colour prints from a lost stock of 300,000 nineteenth century prints are for sale at Christie's in south Kensington on September 23 and 24.

They were printed by J. M. Kronheim, a Victorian London printmaker, and bought by the industrialist and collector Alfred Ernest Owen in 1920 when Kronheim's company failed.

He hid them away in a vault at his home in Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, with it is thought, the idea of selling them, but he died in 1929.

They were discovered recently by Owen's nephew who originally thought the prints were by Baxter, another Victorian printmaker, because his uncle had been president of the Baxter Print Society. When he contacted his aunt, she revealed they were by Kronheim.

The family sold them to Mr

Art thieves plunder ornamental shrubbery

The crime rate is rising, and nowhere more so than in the realm of antique garden statuary (Our Sale Room Correspondent writes).

That wave of crime is not affecting the common plastic gnome, which is always popular with drunken nocturnal hoaxers, but valuable garden antiques sculpted for the shrubberies of fine country houses. Over the past two years they have become the country's most frequently stolen art objects, and police say that at the expense shown in the thefts indicates that a gang might be at large.

In the past month alone, the National Trust had two eighteenth century statues stolen from the garden of one of its London houses: figures of a boy and a shepherdess, which were valued at £12,000 and £5,000 respectively. The trust prefer to keep the scene of the crime a secret for the protec-

tion of the shepherdess's companion, the shepherd.

Meanwhile, Phillips, the auctioneers, have reported the theft in Folkestone of four items, all in lead, including a bird table in the form of a putto.

"We were broken into, in a part of the building which was not as secure as the rest. The police think someone was informed", Jeremy Sparks, of Phillips, said.

"Ten years ago, no one would have given much thought to garden ornaments, but now the villains know there's money in these things."

Mr Sparks has little hope of getting the sculptures back, as the police Art and Antiques Squad was recently disbanded. "Perhaps the only answer is for people to cement their statuary in, or send an electric shock through the blessed things."

Ulster racketeers face curb

By Richard Ford

several people in connection with building site fiddles, but the Government believes much tougher and concerted action is needed.

Ministers have been influenced by warnings from senior officers in the RUC.

New legislation to crack down on bogus security firms has been introduced but senior ministers believe that a significant success by the Inland Revenue would make it easier for the authorities to break the activities of racketeers.

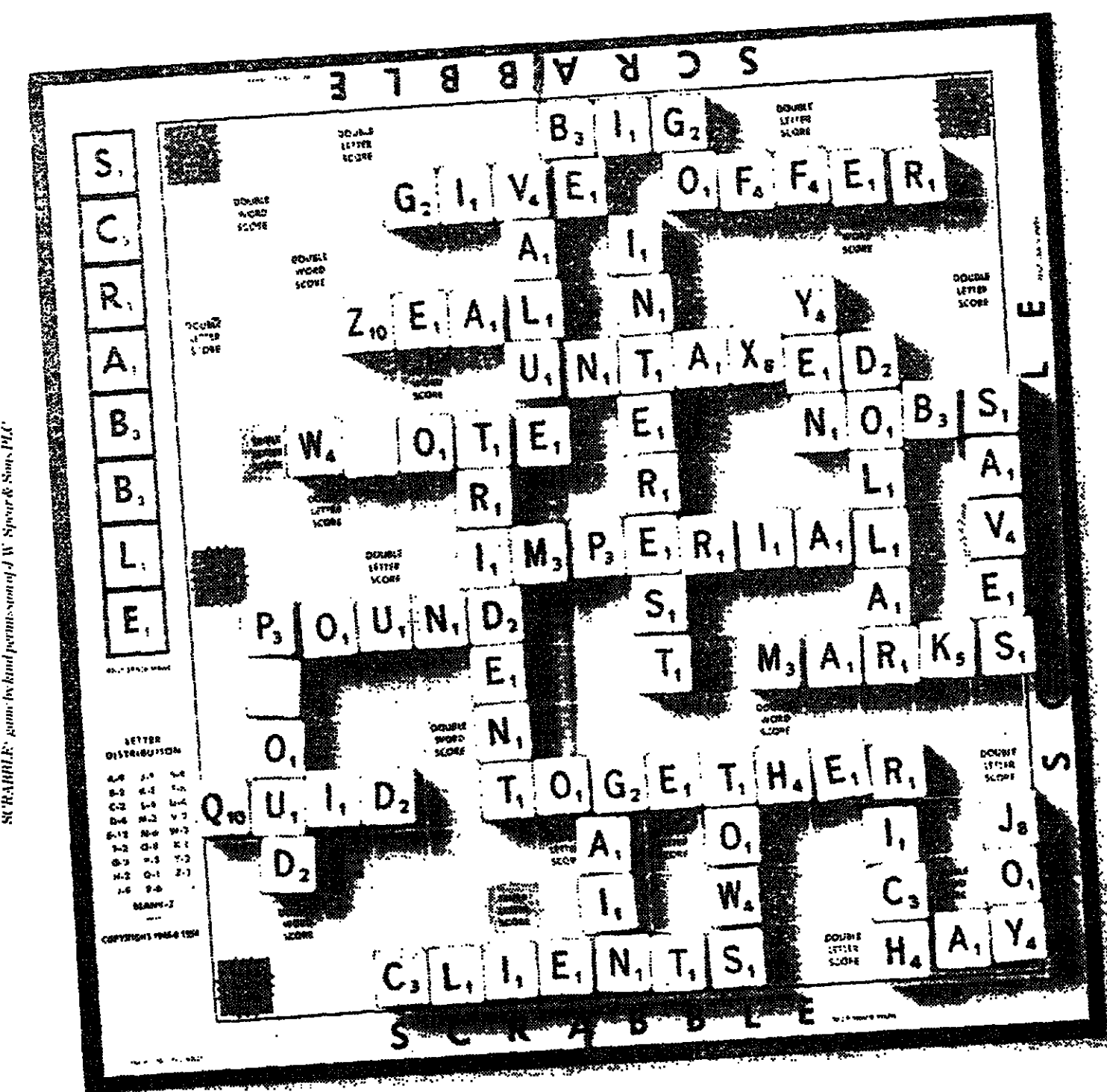
Much of the racketeering goes on in the building and entertainment industries.

A Crown Court judge in Northern Ireland said this

year that the Provisional IRA, official IRA, Irish National Liberation Army, Ulster Defence Association and Ulster Volunteer Force had conspired to carve up housing development and redevelopment in the city to get funds for their illegal activities.

It is estimated that at least 5 per cent of the British Government's spending on public building work has been paid to paramilitaries on both sides of the sectarian divide.

The authorities believe that the fiddle involving tax exemption certificates in the construction industry has been stamped out, but extortion and protection money is still demanded from construction workers.



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Optimism as falling crime figures are reported by forces

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Crime figures have dropped in parts of Britain in the first six months of the year, producing grounds for cautious optimism as the Government steps up its campaign for crime prevention with the creation of a new national co-ordinating organization.

Three of the largest police forces in the country — Merseyside, the Metropolitan Police and Greater Manchester — have either showed a decrease, or no significant change in crime compared with the same period last year.

The West Midlands figure is up by only 4 per cent. The Metropolitan Police announced on August 5 that reported crime was down by 6 per cent. Greater Manchester's figure is much the same as last year's, and Merseyside's crime rate is also virtually unchanged.

Other forces surveyed by *The Times* had single-figure increases. The largest was Avon and Somerset, with 8 per cent. That included a 32 per cent increase in personal theft and a 2 per cent rise in robberies. Independent assault on females rose by 42 per cent, from 97 cases to 139. There was also a 44 per cent rise in theft from motor vehicles.

Encouragingly, burglaries from homes were down by 6 per cent. The Avon and Somerset area was a pioneer of neighbourhood watches.

In Greater Manchester, bur-

glaries also decreased, but there were rises in personal violence (6 per cent), theft and handling stolen property (6 per cent) and robbery (12 per cent).

One of the most disturbing figures was in Thames Valley, a 24.9 per cent increase in robberies and assault with intent to rob. Overall, a 5.6 per cent rise was recorded. That included, however, a 23.7 per cent leap in thefts from motor vehicles, which forms the largest category of offences. The theft of motor vehicles themselves was up by 9.9 per cent. Burglaries in homes rose by 9.1 per cent.

There was a 5 per cent increase in reported crime in Gwent, a 16 per cent rise in home burglaries and a 38 per cent jump in robberies, though the actual numbers are small — 25 in 1987.

In Devon and Cornwall, the crime rate rose 4.8 per cent with a 13.5 per cent increase in burglaries, but juvenile crime was down by 14 per cent.

In the West Midlands, crime increased by 4 per cent, theft from vehicles by 44 per cent, wounding by 16 per cent and malicious damage by 14 per cent.

The amount of theft from vehicles indicates the need for more individuals to take anti-theft precautions.

One of the main aims of the new crime prevention organization being set up by the Government will be to harness the work of local campaigners and establish how best voluntary help can be used. There are 35,000 neighbourhood watch schemes and 300 crime prevention panels.

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, has asked the former Conservative MP for Oxford East, Mr Steven Norris, and Mr David Birley, a consultant in the Home Office crime prevention unit, to report to him by November with proposals for establishing the new organization.

The project comes after a Conservative manifesto commitment to "build on the support of the public by establishing a national organization to promote the best practices in local crime-prevention initiatives".

Mr Norris, aged 42 and a businessman, was from 1985 to 1987 permanent private secretary at the Department of the Environment. Mr Birley, aged 32, has worked on crime prevention schemes with the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders: the projects included redesigning parts of housing estates and involving the community.

Police technology: 1

Enter Holmes and kin, the new electronic detectives

Police constables in Devon and Cornwall are to swap their notebooks for pocket computers in a Home Office study of computer technology.

Initially, the computers will be programmed so that PCs investigating burglaries are guided through the type of questions that need to be asked to solve the crime efficiently.

Data collected by the pocket computers will be fed into the local station's central computer for analysis and comparison with existing records.

The £25,000 trial is the latest in the Home Office's drive to exploit advances in computer technology to make the best use of limited police manpower resources.

Solving even a relatively straightforward crime demands the collection of detailed information, all of which has to be catalogued, cross-catalogued and made accessible for everyone involved in the investigation.

The amount of paperwork can reach ludicrous proportions for serious crimes: the Yorkshire Ripper inquiry produced 24 tons of records, and a warning to the inquiry team that their HQ building would collapse unless the records office was moved.

Because of such trivial problems as the incompatibility of the card indexes of the Lancashire and West Yorkshire forces, the hard work of the detectives on the case lost out to sheer luck in the arrest of Peter Sutcliffe in 1981.

Britain's police are turning to sophisticated technology to help to fight crime with limited resources. In the first of two articles, Robert Matthews looks at how high-speed computers are transforming the work of the detective.

The case proved catalytic, however, in speeding the introduction of computer technology to tackle the two key difficulties facing detectives — co-ordinating an investigation and managing records — and in 1984, Holmes, the Home Office Large Major Enquiry System was set up.

In spite of its name, Holmes is not an electronic version of the master detective, but a methodology for investigating crimes which is backed by computers.

Statements, officers' reports and house-to-house inquiry entries are stored on either the force's HQ computer running the Holmes system, or station-based microcomputers.

As well as providing a centralized source of all information relating to an inquiry, the system allows detectives to search rapidly for connections between seemingly unrelated incidents. Holmes can find useful correlations between cases in about 30 seconds — far faster than using paper records.

It has proved particularly valuable in so-called serial crimes, such as the Ripper case which led to its creation. It is currently being used, for example, to probe the murders of Sarah Harper, Susan Maxwell and Caroline

Hogg, three young girls abducted in different places and killed at different times, but all dumped near Nottingham.

Holmes was specifically designed for the investigation of serious crimes such as murder and robbery. Now, a number of police forces are setting up computerized systems for recording day-to-day reports.

They promise to substantially reduce the amount of paperwork facing detectives, speed investigations and pinpoint the most efficient use of manpower.

Last month, the Metropolitan Police announced the development of a £17 million Crime Report Information System (Cris), which by 1991 will link all 75 divisions of the Met and use sophisticated pattern-spotting techniques to control crime.

It will comprise about 2,000 microcomputers linked to a central core of eight mainframes.

The computer will also use so-called "fuzzy matching" to make the most of witness reports. Partially-remembered information, such as three letters from a registration number, could still enable the computer to find a match in the records.

Tomorrow: detection techniques of the 1990s.

Manager tends his pitch before match



Off duty: Bobby Robson, the England football manager, working in the garden of his Suffolk home over the weekend before taking his team to Düsseldorf for a match against West Germany on Wednesday. It is England's first game of the new season in which they have high hopes of qualifying for the European Championship finals next year. Football reports, page 34 (Photograph: Ian Stewart).

Docklands housing shortage

By Christopher Warran, Property Correspondent

The London Docklands Development Corporation has failed to use the huge land resources available for the benefit of the local community, the Joint Docklands Action Group concludes in a report on housing in the area.

It says it has not even recognized, let alone met, basic housing requirements.

The report says that many Docklands residents felt increasing anger as they watched what has happened in the area. "Their housing situation has not improved, and their opportunity of getting better housing is rapidly disappearing as the land is being used up to provide houses for sale at ever increasing prices."

For those who wished to rent a house, opportunities were very thin on the ground, while the waiting lists and numbers of homeless rose rapidly.

"While much of the land has now been allocated, there are sites which have yet to be allocated. If the LDCC has any concern about the housing situation in Docklands — a situation which is getting worse rather than better because of their actions — they must ensure that the vast majority of these remaining sites are used to provide housing which meets local needs."

The group, set up to represent local interests, says in its report that in the first five years of the LDCC, fewer than 1,000 homes had been provided, and there had been a net loss of rented accommodation.

Councils were "faced with unreasonable repair bills for older blocks", and were selling them off either for demolition or refurbishment by the private sector.

"This has had the effect of boosting owner-occupation and decreasing the rented sector at the same time."

The group records the high price inflation in Docklands in the past two years, and the profits made by speculators.

Some allegedly paid a £500 deposit on a house or flat and sold it on to a new owner for many thousands of pounds more on the same day that completion of the initial sale took place. It says that dealing in property in this way is still continuing, though probably with lower profit margins than at the height of the boom last year.

The Times property guide — a 20-page full colour supplement — will be published on Saturday.

Organ transplants

Law sought to get donors

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Doctors will be required to ask next of kin whether their "brain dead" relatives were willing to become organ transplant donors, if a campaign for new legislation succeeds.

The campaign to introduce a "transplant notification" Bill is being launched today in an attempt to increase the number of organs available.

The campaign, by the Kidney Research Unit For Wales Foundation, is being promoted because supporters believe many potential transplant donors do not know because hospital doctors do not discuss the possibilities with bereaved relatives.

Mr Gwilym Jones, MP for Cardiff North, intends to introduce the Bill in the next House of Commons session. An attempt to introduce it in the House of Lords is also likely to be made.

The campaign is being backed strongly by Professor

John Salaman, professor of transplant surgery at University of Wales College of Medicine, and Cardiff Royal Infirmary. In a letter to the foundation, he said: "There is a great deal of evidence that a large number of potential organ donors are being 'overlooked' in the hospitals where they die."

"Physicians and surgeons are either not recognizing that their dying patients could be organ donors, or are unwilling to approach their relatives on the question of organ donation because of a natural wish not to further their distress."

He said doctors may well find it easier if the law required them to approach the relatives.

More than 3,500 people are on the waiting list for a kidney transplant. Last year, only 1,586 operations were performed, and the foundation believes the real need is for

more than 4,000 kidneys each year. Almost 300 other patients await a new heart or heart-lung graft, about 140 others need a liver transplant and about 500 people need cornea grafts to restore their sight.

Mr Max Gabe Wilkinson, chairman of the foundation, said he believed the majority of the medical profession would accept such legislation.

The proposed British legislation would make it the responsibility of local health authorities to identify potential donors and to ensure that relatives are informed about the possibility of organ donation.

All relatives would be free to decline consent. Mr Wilkinson said: "The last thing we want to do is to cause apprehension. On no account would hospital staff be allowed to pester relatives of patients as they enter hospital."

Playwright angered at theatre ban

By Our Arts Correspondent

A former assistant governor of Holloway Prison, now a playwright, has protested about a theatre's decision to cancel the world premiere of her latest work.

Kathleen J. Smith said the owner of Scarborough's Royal Opera House banned the play, *Women Without Men*, because he believed it was based on the Moors murders.

"People are going to draw parallels with Myra Hindley, but it is not about her," she said. "I have never met Hindley — I left Holloway in 1960 before she arrived — and I have never met anyone who knew her."

Miss Smith, whose early work includes episodes of the television series *Within These Walls*, said: "I have met other women who have killed children and I know the problems members of prison staff have."

"That a new play should be banned and called 'repulsive' without being seen or read is typical of censorship we usually associate with other countries. It seems to me to be alien in Britain and would be deplorable anywhere."

Set in a long-term wing of a women's prison, the play traces the conflict between the murderers of children, who claim to be a reformed character, and a prison officer.

It will now have its world premiere at Chesterfield, Derbyshire, next month.

Sick soprano adds to Royal Opera problems

By Lynda Murrin, Arts Correspondent

The opening of the new season at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, is in jeopardy and not just from a dispute with chorus members over pay which is provoking gloomy predictions of "indefinite closure".

Administrators at the Royal Opera House now have to find a replacement for Stefania Toczyńska, the leading soprano due to make her Covent Garden debut in the role of Venus in Wagner's *Tannhäuser*. Miss Toczyńska has withdrawn from the first two performances because of ill-health. She expects to be well enough to sing in the third performance on September 21.

Chorus members, who last week rejected the offer of a 4 per cent pay rise, are due to meet again tomorrow, although with new opera house chairman, Sir John Sainsbury, apparently set against an increased offer, stalemate could prevail.

And even when immediate problems are over for the company, bedevilled by difficulties last season, the matter of another Wagner opera remains. The production of *Parsifal* early next year, with a projected budget of £200,000, still desperately needs a sponsor to survive.

Runcie free of guilt over Waite

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, feels no guilt for sending Mr Terry Waite to Beirut where he disappeared.

Dr Runcie said he allowed his envoy to go ahead with his visit last January in spite of fears for his safety and warnings from the Foreign Office of the danger of kidnap.

"We talked about it so much that I don't feel guilt — although, of course, I have always been deeply concerned about his safety. On the basis of his record and my knowledge of his contacts, it seemed a risk that could be taken", Dr Runcie has told *Woman's Own* magazine.

"My conscience is clear about what we have been doing in the Middle East. We were not trying to act as politicians or diplomats, but were fulfilling the ancient imperative of mercy towards a prisoner, standing up for justice and responding to a cry of need."

Dr Runcie revealed that a variety of American churches had paid for Mr Waite's journeys to Lebanon after asking for his help.

"I am not acting simply as Primate of England, I am in the centre of a world family of churches and in a country which is at the heart of diplomatic communications. When people call for aid, I respond."

"That is how we started to engage in an operation that was entirely humanitarian. As he became involved, he felt, naturally, that he couldn't just deal with church hostages. He had to point to the injustice and suffering of all hostages."

"He had to operate in a very difficult and delicate situation, but he always did so from a religious and humanitarian imperative."

Minister to visit prisons in the US

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Lord Cailhess, the Home Office Minister with special responsibility for prisons, leaves today for America to seek ideas from jails there.

He will be visiting 11, including five run by private companies, and in Florida will observe the offenders electronic tagging scheme.

The Commons Home Affairs Committee recommended the Government should

study US-style tagging, used to check that offenders held in the community stay within bounds. The device reduces pressure on prisons.

Lord Cailhess said when talking to tagged people he would want to know if they found it dehumanizing, how restrictive it was, whether they were monitored 24 hours a day, if they had to call in at certain times, whether it kept the family together, and the opinions of work colleagues.

Arguments for the scheme include that it enables people to go to work and keeps together families that might break up during a jail sentence.

Lord Cailhess will present a written report for Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, to be produced in consultation with Miss Margaret Clayton, director of regimes and services in the prison department, and Mr David Brooke, the governor of Wormwood Scrubs prison.

Motorway report

Lobbying renewed at inquiry over missing lane

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

A public inquiry opens tomorrow into one of the most bitterly contested proposed motorway extensions in recent years.

It will deal with the section of the M40 running from Watlington to Wendlebury, north-east of Oxford. The inquiry is to be held at Bicester, and will be the second into that section of the motorway.

The roads lobby is expected to be strongly represented to persuade the inspector that the road should be built with carriageways of three lanes, rather than the two planned by the Department of Transport.

Motoring interests in the Midlands argue that they are suffering huge difficulties because of works to widen the M5 from two lanes to three, and that it would be folly to have to go through the same

process in relation to the M40 in a few years.

The department says its forecasts show that only about 38,000 vehicles a day will be using that stretch of the M40 as far ahead as the year 2005, compared with a theoretical capacity for two-lane motorways of about 54,000.

It is, in any case, proposing to construct earth works and structures so that the road could be widened to three lanes without difficulty if it became necessary.

The first inquiry into the section of the motorway, in 1982-83, rejected the department's originally proposed route.

In 1985, the department withdrew its original route, and last April produced a revised one.

One criticism of the original route was that it would cross Ot Moor common and other areas of outstanding scientific interest, which the new route avoids.

Main motorway repairs until next Monday:

London and South-east

M11 Essex: Southbound lane closures, junctions 7 to 6 (Harlow/M25).

M27 Hampshire: Contraflow between junctions 3 and 4 (M27/A33).

M27 Hampshire: Lane restrictions, junction 5.

M275 Hampshire: Flyover construction between Rudmore roundabout and M27.

M4 Berkshire: Lane closures between junction 12 and Membury services.

M40 Buckinghamshire: Contraflow, junctions 3 and 4 (Loudwater/High Wycombe).

M40 Oxfordshire: Contraflow between junctions 6 and 7 (Watlington/Thame).

M1 Bedfordshire: Lane restrictions, junctions 9 to 10 (Harpenden/Luton). No access at junction 10.

Midlands

M1 Leicestershire: Contra-

flow between junctions 23 and 24 (Loughborough/A6).

M5 West Midlands: Lane closures, junctions 1 to 2. South-bound entry at junction 1 and north-bound entry at junction 2 closed.

M5 Hereford/Worcester: contraflow between junctions 5 and 6 (Bromsgrove/Worcester north). Possible overnight carriageway closures.

M6 West Midlands: Contraflow between junctions 4 and 4a (National Exhibition Centre/airport). North-bound entry slip from A446 at junction 4 closed.

North

M6 Cumbria: Lane closures and contraflows on both carriageways, junctions 41 to 42 (Wigton/Carlisle).

M62 Manchester: Lane closures westbound between junctions 21 and 22 (A640/Ripponden).

M62 Humber: Carriageway closures and diversions between junctions 36 and 38 (Goole/Humber Bridge).

M62 Greater Manchester: Lane closures between junctions 9 and 11 (Warrington/Warrington east).

M63 Greater Manchester: Reduced to 2 lanes at Portwood roundabout, Stockport.

M6 Cumbria: contraflow between junctions 41 and 42 (Wigton/Carlisle).

M56 Greater Manchester: Roadworks on Sharnon bypass, junctions 2 to 4.

Wales

M5 Gloucestershire: Lane closures, junctions 9 to 11 (Tewkesbury/Cheltenham).

M5 Somerset: Outside lane closures both directions, junctions 21 to 22 (Weston-super-Mare/Burnham-on-Sea).

M8 Strathclyde: outside lane closed both ways at junction 5 (Shotts interchange).

M9 Louth/Central: Contraflow, junctions 5 to 6 (Grangemouth/Falkirk).

Information compiled and supplied by AA Roadwatch.

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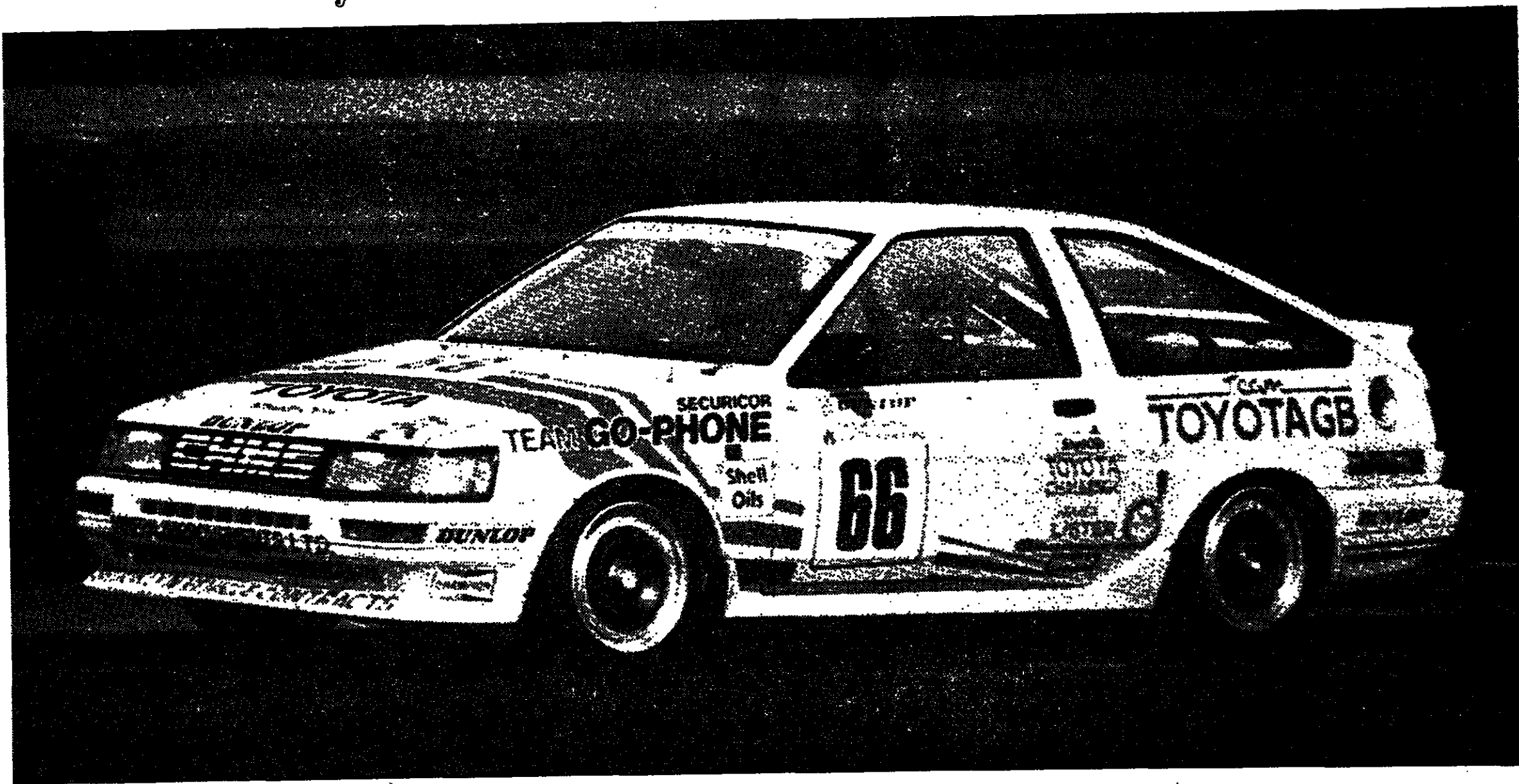
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WORLD SUMMARY

Jews issue more Waldheim papers

Athens — A representative of the World Jewish Congress yesterday released documents claiming to show that President Waldheim of Austria was involved with decisions on the use of civilian hostages on military trains to deter partisan attacks during his war service with the German Army in Greece, as well as the deportation of male populations from areas of operations against the Greek resistance (Mario Modiano writes).

Mr Elin Steinberg, the executive director of the Congress, distributed copies of four sets of German war documents, three of which, he said, have not been published before. He said Athens had been chosen to release the documents to mark the annual meeting of the European Jewish Congress, which began here on Saturday, attended by 120 delegates from 20 countries. The group's president, M Theo Klein, urged Mr Lefteris Veryvakis, the Greek Minister of Justice, to provide any documentation on the wartime role of President Waldheim that could be found in Greek archives.

Gulf grain Bagaza for EEC accused

Brussels — The EEC is to import about 100,000 tonnes of wheat from Saudi Arabia this year for making bread, despite huge Common Market subsidies (A Correspondent writes). Millers in Britain, Italy and Portugal pay extra for high-quality imported wheat each summer because top-class European grain will remain short until after the harvest is completed.

Embarrassed EEC officials last week released more than 100,000 tonnes of home-grown breadmaking wheat from stock at knock-down prices. But it does not compete with Saudi quality.

Much of Europe's 12-million-tonne grain mountain is not suitable for breadmaking because subsidies have encouraged quantity rather than quality.

Rust term 'humane'

Moscow — Pravda claimed yesterday that the Soviet Supreme Court had acted humanely in sentencing Mathias Rust, aged 19, to four years in a labour camp for his unauthorized light aircraft flight to Red Square (Christopher Walker writes). The newspaper accused the West of gloating over the incident and quoted the conservative West German newspaper, *Die Welt*, as saying the sentence was monstrous and dictatorial.

Three Eta Wilson arrests campaign

Madrid — Police arrested three suspected members of Eta's Barcelona commando unit on Saturday in a raid in the Catalan capital (Richard Wigg writes).

Domingo Troitino, aged 32, José Gallastegui, 30, and a woman, Mercedes Enaga, 36, are suspected of involvement in car bombings, including the Barcelona supermarket attack that killed 21 people. The woman was "gravely" ill after being shot in the liver during the raid on a flat.

Baez in Contra protest

New York — Thousands of protesters led by Joan Baez, the singer, right, demonstrated at the weekend at the Concord naval base in California where a campaign was run down by a train last week (Charles Bremner writes).

Mr Brian Willson, who lost both legs in a demonstration against US support for the Contras, was visited in hospital by Señora Rosa Ortega, wife of President Ortega of Nicaragua.



Danish voters likely to return Schluter to power

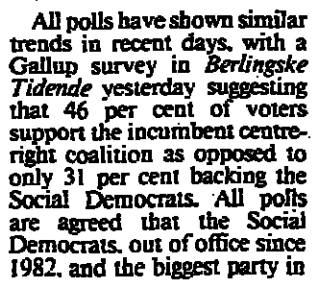
From Christopher Follett Copenhagen

Denmark's 3.7 million voters go to the polls tomorrow after a lustrous three-week election campaign involving more than 1,500 candidates from 16 political groups.

Voters have a clear choice between right and left wing blocs, with most opinion polls suggesting that the five-year-old centre-right coalition led by Mr Poul Schluter, Denmark's first Conservative Prime Minister this century, will continue in power.

An opinion poll published in yesterday's *Jyllands-Posten* newspaper gave the four parties in Mr Schluter's coalition and their ally, the Radical Liberals, 47 per cent of the vote, with the opposition Social Democrats and the anti-EEC, anti-Nato Socialist People's Party scoring a combined 42 per cent.

All polls have shown similar trends in recent days, with a Gallup survey in *Berlingske Tidende* yesterday suggesting that 46 per cent of voters support the incumbent centre-right coalition as opposed to only 31 per cent backing the Social Democrats. All polls are agreed that the Social Democrats, out of office since 1982, and the biggest party in



Chad takes fight to Libyan territory Surprise attack on Gadaffi air base increases tension

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

Libyans, 30 planes and Soviet-made armoured vehicles.

The Libyan news agency, Jana, said forces from Chad had launched an attack "near the civil airport of Sirt", with the help of France and the US. Mr Allam-mi denied any involvement of French or US troops, saying their involvement was limited to "the supply of material".

The French Government has felt extremely uneasy about the spread of the Chad conflict into the Aouzou Strip, which Chad and Libya have claimed. This latest strike into Libya is bound to alarm the French even more and lead to increased pressure on Chad to resolve the dispute by diplomatic means.

The French Minister of Defence, M André Giraud, announced last week that 1,500 French soldiers based in southern Chad would now be better deployed to take into account the new reality in northern Chad, which is now

held by Chad government forces. Besides the capital, Ndjamena, key French military posts would now include Moussora and Abché, where an airstrip has just been reconstructed.

This redeployment is designed to better protect French troops working on demining and "humanitarian" operations in the north.

Libyan planes have continually bombed recaptured northern towns since Chad troops marched into the Aouzou Strip last month.

Since the beginning of the year Chad forces have shown their strength — and the efficiency of French-supplied equipment — by driving the Libyans out of the north of the country and marching into the Aouzou Strip after several attempts at negotiation were blocked by Libya.

With the base of Maaten es-Serra destroyed, Chad will feel easier about Libyan air raids in eastern Chad and therefore be able to concentrate more on the western flank. Mr Allam-mi insists that the raid was defensive, as Chad was not prepared to stand by while Libyan planes bombed its territory.

"Our aim is to live at peace with our neighbours," he said.

To do this Libya must be forced into a position where it would see the need to negotiate. The Chad attacks were designed to do just that.

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Voting on the vanquished



The Turkish Prime Minister, Mr Turgut Ozal, voting yesterday in the referendum to decide whether former leaders ousted by the military will be allowed to return to politics.

Ozal surprises Turks with call for November election

By Michael Dynes

The Turkish Prime Minister, Mr Turgut Ozal, took his country by surprise yesterday by announcing his intention to call an early general election in November, a year before his present mandate expires.

The announcement was made at the end of polling in a referendum in which more than 25 million Turks voted to decide whether some 200 politicians, including two former prime ministers, should be allowed to return to the political arena before a ten-year ban imposed on their political activity in 1982 comes to an end.

The result of the poll, which is expected to approve the return of the banned politicians, will not be known until later today.

If the electorate votes in favour of their return, the former Prime Minister, Mr Süleyman Demirel, the acknowledged leader of the right-wing True Path Party, is expected to emerge as a serious contender to the conservative Motherland Party of Mr Ozal.

Another former Prime Minister, Mr Bulent Ecevit, who once led the Republican People's Party and who was jailed three times for violating the restrictions on political activity, could also return to politics, although he is regarded as much less of a threat to the incumbent regime.

The politicians, who have been barred from seeking office under the 1982 constitution drawn up by Turkey's former military leaders, and endorsed overwhelmingly by a referendum the same year, presided over Turkey's decline into political turmoil in the late 1970s, when more than 5,000 people were killed in street violence before the military seized power in 1980.

According to an opinion poll in Saturday's edition of the Istanbul newspaper *Milliyet*, 47.3 per cent of the electorate are in favour of lifting the ban, confirming

earlier predictions that most Turks approve of the rehabilitation of their erstwhile political leaders.

Mr Ozal, who became Prime Minister in December 1983 after Turkey's military rulers — the traditional arbiters of Turkish democracy — approved a gradual return to full civilian rule, fought a vigorous campaign against the rehabilitation of the banned politicians whom he claims would return the country to chaos.

Although Mr Ozal's mandate does not expire until November 1988, he was known to have been preparing for an early return to the polls by drawing up a draft Bill which would reduce the time it takes to call a general election from 90 to 45 days.

His decision to call an early election must now be approved by the 400-member single-house Parliament, in which his Motherland Party has a 250-seat majority.

Buenos Aires ballot struggle

From Eduardo Cui, Buenos Aires

Millions of Argentines voted yesterday to elect governors of all but one of the country's 22 provinces and half of the 254-member Chamber of Deputies in elections that are likely to determine the direction of President Alfonsín's Radical Civic Union Government during the final two years of his term.

A university student and political activist, Señor Alfredo Genovesi, was shot and killed at dawn on Friday in Buenos Aires province in a politically-related incident.

The last time Argentines had the opportunity to re-elect governors they had sent to office four years earlier was in 1962, during the presidency of Señor Arturo Frondizi.

The final two days before the vote were marked by controversial comments from the Peronist Labour Minister, Señor Carlos Alderete, who demanded that his portfolio have a say in shaping economic policy, said he would never declare a strike illegal, and charged that his ministry's

"structural enemy" was the Economics Ministry. He was summoned to a meeting with President Alfonsín on Saturday, apparently to explain his remarks.

Attention during the long campaign centred on the close race for Governor of Buenos Aires province, which accounts for more than seven million of the country's 19½ million voters.

Both leading parties concentrated their resources on Buenos Aires with a massive television and newspaper advertising effort. The campaign was highlighted by a televised debate between the two leading candidates, the Peronist, Señor Antonio Cafiero, and the Radical, Señor Juan Manuel Casella.

The debate, a first for Argentina, illustrated the increasing importance of image in Argentine politics. Señor Casella, aged 45, lost 20lb and had his teeth capped for the campaign.

Señor Cafiero, aged 65, who served as Economics Minister in the government of Señora Isabel Perón during a period of hyperinflation, was unable to shake off the image of an old-style politician.

Apart from the governorship, Buenos Aires province elected 35 of the 127 deputies chosen yesterday. Besides Buenos Aires the other key provinces are Córdoba and Santa Fe in the nation's centre and Mendoza on the Chilean border. The Peronists are expected to again win the governorship in Santa Fe, while the Radicals are favoured in Mendoza and Córdoba.

The Government is likely to lose its slim two-vote absolute majority in the Chamber of Deputies. If this is the case, President Alfonsín may try to push important pieces of legislation, such as economic policy and constitutional reform, through when the current Congress reconvenes after the elections and before the new deputies take their seats on December 10.

Italy is already divided over whether it should become involved in the Gulf at all. An opinion poll commissioned by the respected *La Stampa* newspaper yesterday that only 41.4 per cent of people favour the sending of Italian warships to the Gulf, 38.6 per cent disapproved, and the rest were undecided.

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Iran blames US for envoy expulsions

From A Correspondent, Bahrain

Kuwait ordered five Iranian diplomats from the country at the weekend, bringing a threat from Tehran of retaliatory action. The Iranian Prime Minister, Mr Hussein Musavi, said yesterday that Tehran believed the United States to be behind the Kuwaiti move.

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency reported Mr Musavi as having said that Kuwait was "too weak" to expel the diplomats on its own and was doing only "what is dictated upon it by other governments".

But the day passed without further Iranian raids against commercial ships in the Gulf, and maritime shipping agents reported navigation in the waterway as largely normal.

Kuwait on Saturday declared the five diplomats persona non grata and ordered them to leave within a week. It also asked the United Nations to take punitive action against Iran.

Kuwaitis made no public charges against the diplomats, but told the United Nations Secretary-General, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, that Iran was guilty of hostile acts that warranted UN action. It

The Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, spoke yesterday of the "profound and immense difficulties" facing the UN Secretary-General, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, on his Gulf War peace mission to Tehran and Baghdad. "It is quite clear that the mission is immensely difficult, but still immensely important to achieve a conclusion to this bloody conflict," he said.

cited Friday's dawn missile attack in which coastal installations were reportedly damaged, and an earlier Iranian motor-launch raid on a Kuwaiti-flagged bulk carrier in the Gulf. Kuwait added that it was not reporting all acts of aggression in order to avoid complicating the UN bid to arrange a ceasefire in the seven-year Gulf War. Señor Pérez de Cuéllar is to travel to

beach house south of the Al-Ahmedi oil terminal, where two US-reflagged Kuwaiti tankers were moored for loading.

Two missiles, only one of which was confirmed, have been reported to have hit Kuwaiti territory in the past week. Eyewitnesses said Friday's missile crashed in sand near an empty

US warships escorted a convoy of Kuwaiti tankers down the Gulf and were reported yesterday to have been on maximum alert throughout their passage of the Strait of Hormuz. Shipping sources said one escort destroyer was overheard to warn a shadowing Iranian vessel not to aim its guns at the convoy.

"Iranian warship, you have pointed your gun-mount at my ships... Do not do that again," the missile destroyer USS Kidd reportedly told the Iranian ship on Saturday.

The Iranian replied "We are not here to bother you," according to the BBC, which monitored the exchange.

on the southern Iraqi Al Faw peninsula.

Kuwait is also investigating three mysterious fires which gutted buildings at the national university outside Kuwait city late on Friday.

The existence of an extraordinary web of Iranian-backed gunmen, mafiosi and international gun and drug dealers has emerged from the Italian seizure of a boatload of weapons and heroin.

Up to yesterday Italian police had arrested 32 suspects, including a top industrialist and two Mafia bosses, and were searching for another 13 members of the smuggling gang.

The Italian swoop comes at a particularly sensitive time. A task force will embark this week for the Gulf — Parliament is expected to approve the move today — and some observers believe that Iran could retaliate with shootings or bombings on the streets of Italy.

Italian customs intercepted the Lebanese cargo vessel *Bonstany 1* at the end of last week. It was impounded at the port of Bari, where a search revealed a cache of heroin, hashish, guns, anti-personnel mines, rocket-propelled grenades and anti-helicopter missiles. The weapons, it was found, were of Italian manufacture and had originally been sold illegally to Iranian through dummy companies.

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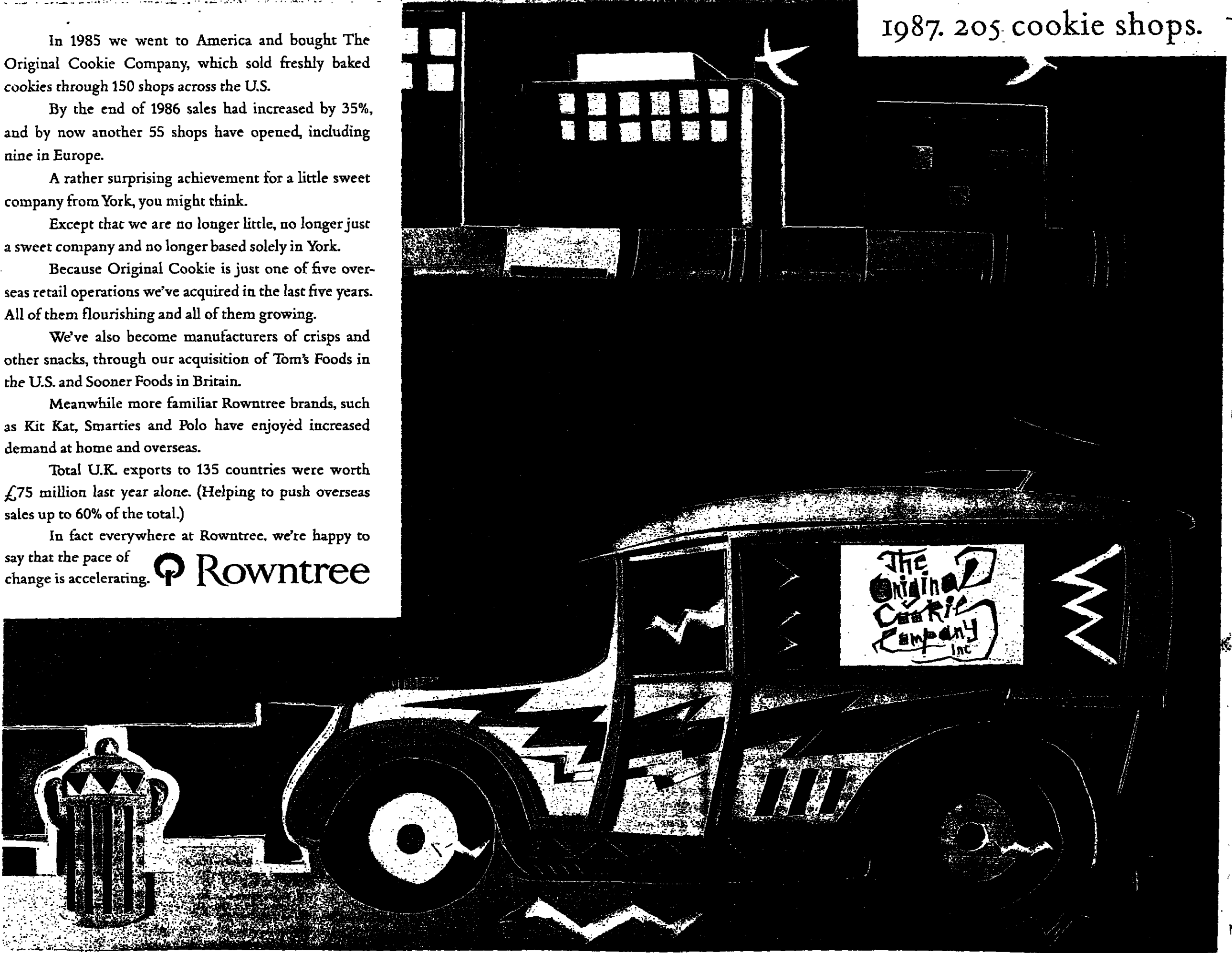
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1985. 150 cookie shops.



In fact everywhere at Rowntree, we're happy to say that the pace of change is accelerating.

1987. 205 cookie shops.

FROM: [REDACTED]
TO: [REDACTED]
SUBJECT: [REDACTED]
DATE: [REDACTED]

BRILLI

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Angola, Mozambique and South Africa in prisoner exchange

Secret talks end in deal to free Pretoria's hero

From Nicholas Broom, Johannesburg

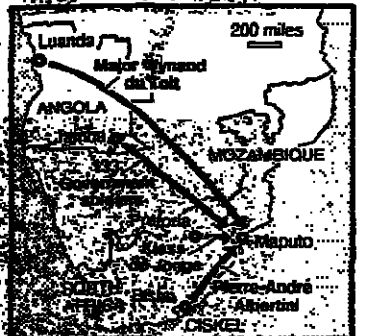
Southern Africa's most bitter rival, the South African Government, has agreed to exchange 140 prisoners for 140 Angolans, Mozambicans and South Africans. The deal, which was announced in a R.F. P. Botha, the South African President, and the head of a black homeland.

Responding to the deal, President Botha sent a rare message of thanks to the Angolans, Mozambicans and South Africans. He said the deal was a "significant step towards the end of the conflict in Southern Africa."

For its part, the Soviet-backed Marxist Government in Luanda will be handed back 133 government soldiers and 133 guerrillas. The deal also includes the release of 140 South African prisoners, including 140 Angolans, Mozambicans and South Africans.

recounted how the complex negotiations were very nearly thwarted by leaks in the press and by Luanda's insistence that a missing Angolan doctor with sensitive intelligence information be located and released.

Press speculation began last month when an official of the Ciskei Government inadvertently leaked details of the prisoner transfer to the press. In spite of heated denials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the postponement of a series of budget speeches by Mr Botha in Parliament added to speculation in political circles that a deal had been struck.



On Saturday night the South African Government broke its silence and announced that the details of the exchange had been completed.

All the countries involved now appear to be courting maximum publicity for the largest swap in the region's history, not least Mozambique, the host country for the transfer, which hopes to reinforce its neutral stance in the region by bringing together South Africa and Angola, whose troops and proxies have been engaged in a protracted bush war in Angola and Namibia. Maputo is engaged in separate talks with South Africa aimed at improving border security and curbing guerrilla activity in both countries.

The only party which does not visibly profit from the human barter is Unita, whose president, Dr Jonas Savimbi, has publicly at least, only received thanks for his co-operation from President Botha. However, political pundits see the exchange as further evidence that South Africa is anxious to begin releasing its own political prisoners.

Last month President Botha said the authorities were reviewing the case of a senior ANC prisoner, Mr Govan Mbeki, who was sentenced to life imprisonment with the organization's leader, Mr Nelson Mandela.

At the time the South African leader hinted that the renunciation of violence was no longer a "decisive" factor "in its own right" when considering the release of ANC prisoners, Mr Botha had previously linked the release of Mr du Toit and Soviet dissidents, Mr Natan Sharansky and Dr Andrei Sakharov, to that of Mr Mandela.

● PARIS: There is general relief in French political circles over the expected release of M. Albertini, who was sent to Ciskei as a teacher by the French Government even though it does not recognize the independence of the South African homeland (Susan MacDonald writes). The Prime Minister's office said French negotiations with South Africa, Mozambique and Angola had also led to Mr de Jonge's being allowed to leave South Africa.

Kohl calls for an end to border shootings on eve of Honecker's visit

On the eve of a visit to West Germany by East German leader Erich Honecker, the first German Chancellor to visit the East since the fall of the Berlin Wall, Helmut Kohl has called on East Germany to make peace with its temporary loss of border shootings. "We will never reconcile ourselves to violence and bloodshed," Herr Kohl said at his weekend.

The shoot-to-kill order must be abolished once and for all and not just suspended on special occasions," the Chancellor said. "The only way to achieve peace is through dialogue and understanding."

Mr Kohl's visit to East Germany is part of a series of talks between the two German leaders. The visit is seen as a key step towards normalizing relations between the two Germanys.

From Richard Owen, Bonn

A further national summit, at which the East German leadership will discuss the weekend's developments, including the protest against the shoot-to-kill order, is expected to take place in East Berlin on Monday. East German police stood by as the demonstrators carried a banner which read: "We want peace, not war."

In the event, the East German national anthem will be played at today's arrival ceremonies at the Chancellor's office, even though there is no East German "nation" from Bonn's point of view. Since the West German guard of honour band is marching with the anthem, the East Germans have obligingly provided the music.

To ensure that all runs smoothly, the West German police have "banned" right-wingers from demonstrating against Herr Honecker along the route from the airport. Officials stress that he is not being given full head of state honours, and his trip is strictly a "working visit."

But the East German flag will fly in Bonn for the first time, and the visit clearly marks the climax of Herr Honecker's bid towards the end of his career (he is 75) as international respectability.

Reading article, page 10

Outcry as firemen entombed

A fire in a building in Bonn, Germany, has resulted in the deaths of several firemen. The fire broke out in a building which was being used as a temporary shelter for refugees. The firemen were trapped inside the building when it collapsed.

Killer hands in

A man has been charged with the murder of a woman in Bonn, Germany. The woman was found dead in a rooming house. The man is accused of killing her with a knife.

Nuclear demo

A demonstration in Bonn, Germany, has resulted in the deaths of several people. The demonstration was held in front of a nuclear power plant. The police used force to disperse the crowd.

Poles protest

A protest in Bonn, Germany, has resulted in the deaths of several people. The protest was held in front of a Polish consulate. The police used force to disperse the crowd.

Free Democrats strain coalition

The Free Democrats (FDP) in Bonn, Germany, are facing a crisis. The party is struggling to maintain its position in the coalition government. The party's leader, Hans Dietrich Genscher, is under pressure to resign.

Now the FDP is confident that it will re-enter the coalition government. The party's leader, Hans Dietrich Genscher, has announced that he will remain in the government.

US pilgrimage will test papal authority

A pilgrimage to the Vatican by a group of American Catholics will test the authority of the Pope. The pilgrimage is being led by a group of American Catholics who are protesting against the Pope's teachings on abortion and divorce.

The pilgrimage will be a significant test of the Pope's authority. The Pope has been criticized for his teachings on abortion and divorce, and the pilgrimage is seen as a challenge to his authority.

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Aquino's women warriors on parade



A smart "eyes right" from Armañita-carrying women of the Philippine armed forces, who form President Aquino's security escort, during a march-past outside the presidential Malacanang Palace in Manila at the weekend.

Macao TV seeks rich pickings

A television station in Macao is seeking to become a major player in the region's media market. The station is looking for investors and is planning to launch a new channel.

Gun law still holds sway in the southern Philippines

Gun laws in the southern Philippines are still being enforced, despite the presence of armed groups. The government is working to strengthen its control over the region.

Papandreou to lift pay freeze at end of year

Prime Minister Papandreou of Greece is expected to lift the pay freeze for public sector workers at the end of the year. The freeze has been in place for several years.

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Reminder of cannibal past upsets the Fijians

A reminder of the cannibal past of the Fijians has upset the people. The reminder was in the form of a book which described the cannibal practices of the Fijians in the past.

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SPECTRUM

All for the high life

A high-rise flat can be hell if it's in a council block — but three simple steps can help to bring it a little nearer heaven, as Pearson Phillips discovered with a far-seeing family on the 18th floor

As they sit round the kitchen table, the Carroll family can watch a sparrow hawk preying on passing starlings. If they look down from the window, they can see herons fishing in the Thames off Chelsea Yacht Basin 180ft below.

It is always a treat, says Paul Carroll, to watch the sun setting behind the twin chimneys of London Transport's Loth Road power station. Paul, his wife Bernadine and their four children live in what is fashionably known as "a piece of high-rise hell", 18 floors up in a council-owned tower block. And they love it.

"When we asked to come here 10 years ago, the council housing officer thought we were joking. He couldn't believe anyone would actually choose to live in a multi-storey block."

The Carrolls have chosen not only to live in one: they have turned themselves into propagandists for multi-storey living. They have formed an organization called SO-ACT (the Society for Action for Children in Tower Blocks) and fired off letters to such interested parties as the Prince of Wales and the Minister of Housing, attacking "the high-rise fallacy".

What is that? "The belief," says Carroll, "that there is something innately anti-social about high-rise architecture. It isn't the idea of multi-storey living that is wrong. The blame for their unpopularity lies in the cheap, shoddy way so many high-rise council estates are built and run. You don't find the lifts in the Hilton breaking down."

Another part of the view from the Carrolls' kitchen underlines his theme. Up river, beyond the power station, he has watched a new tower block with a distinctive coned roof spring up at the rate of one floor every five days.

It is the Belvedere, the focal point of the luxurious Chelsea Harbour housing development for well-heeled riverside villagers. Flats range from £600,000 to £950,000 — the higher they are the more expensive. There has been no talk of "high-rise hell" here.



The Carroll family at home: leading the attack against "the tower block fallacy that there is something innately anti-social about high-rise architecture"

The flats have all been sold, even though the building isn't due to be finished until later in the autumn. But it is on Floor 18 that the real Wonderland begins.

Travelling up on a builder's hoist, I could look across at the Carrolls' £69.35 a week two-bedroomed council flat on the same level. In the Belvedere, the 18th floor is the reception room of the three-storey Penthouse Suite.

It is not for sale, yet. The developers will be using it as a business entertainment area and general show-place for the whole estate. But after about a year it will go, for around £3 million. They have already had some inquiries.

I pointed out the Carroll family's council flat down the river at World's End to Francis Hilton, the project's sales director. "If it was brought up to these specifications it would doubtless be worth the same kind of price," he said.

That is precisely Paul Carroll's point. He says three things make tower-block living civilized. The first is what up-market developers call "portage", someone in the lobby who knows all the tenants and can watch everyone going in or out.

"This would eliminate at a stroke the greatest fear among tower block tenants: that they are going to get stuck in the highly unreliable lifts without anyone knowing they are there." At present there is an emergency lift bell which rings in the lobby. More often than

not, there is no one to hear it. Second, there has to be some kind of entry by telephone system for security. It has been tried in some council blocks. The system usually breaks down and is abandoned. But as Carroll says: "Just because a telephone box goes out of service doesn't mean that we should abandon the idea."

Third, something has to be done about the bleak, exposed landings which are a feature of council building. "It is a social attitude," Carroll says. "Local authority housing has always had open landing spaces."

"Up on the 18th floor they become a wind tunnel. The weather hits you every time you open the front door. But worse than that, they are an invitation to throw things over the side. More sadly, a girl used my landing to commit suicide. All that is needed is some glazing and the whole environment would be transformed."

Over in the Belvedere there is a 12-hour porter cover. There is also a central security office manned 24 hours a day, linked to burglar alarms and mobile security patrols with radios. There is a video telephone entry system. All residents are given a 6in mobile TV monitor, so that they can inspect would-be visitors as well as talk to them. And the lifts open on to "common part" landings which are fully glazed and sealed.

Carroll says that by thinking high, rather than building the four-storey dwellings now in fashion, councils could easily afford round-the-clock security for a block of 65 flats.

Those gaining most from the anti-tower block mood are developers, who are buying unwanted buildings from councils at bargain prices. They refurbish them, provide the 24-hour porters, and have no difficulty in re-selling them at a profit.

Regalian Properties, which bought two 17-storey blocks on the Livingstone Estate in south London for £4.66 million, has sold each flat for between £63,000 and £72,000.

But how can anyone have a rewarding family life with four children on the 18th floor? To quote Dr Rod Hackney, president of the Royal Institute of British Architects: "The Victorian house has adaptability, a family could control it. How do you control a slice of a concrete tower?"

Carroll and his wife have. They glazed over part of their balcony so that the sitting room leads into a tropical conservatory. The bedroom of the children, who range from 12-year-old Jesse to one-month-old Laetitia, doubles as a playground during the day, with a climbing frame, slide and a rope swing fixed to the ceiling.

But most important is the view from the windows, the whole life of London going on beneath. The field glasses on the window sill are part of the family.

"Our children have friends living in Eaton Square, Belgrave," says Carroll. "All they can see out of their windows are rows of white stucco houses. They always want to come up here." Being a high-rise development, there is room on the ground between the blocks for supervised children's play areas, remote from any traffic.

Of course, not all the other

high-rise dwellers share Carroll's enthusiasm. They ignore the view and curtain off the windows to stop the sun shining on their TV screens.

"People are still afraid of this new kind of living. They don't see the great advantage of being able to leave their children free to venture out without being threatened by that major child-killer, the motor car. People will need time to adapt."

Carroll sees his main task as killing the anti-high rise mood among local authorities. "It's not the height of the buildings that is the problem. It is the old 'coals-in-the-bath' attitude. People assume that council tenants won't appreciate the things which make high-rise living civilized. Then they wonder why they get vandalism and riots."

"Don't blame the architects. It is the attitude of the people who employed them that is to blame."

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OTHER SIDE OF THE STOREY

The Belvedere, focal point of the Chelsea Harbour scheme, is a 20-storey tower which has been faced with white cladding and glass to reflect the light shining from the nearby river. Its conical roof, topped by a mast and a golden ball, is already a landmark. An hydraulic system, rumoured to have cost £250,000, moves the ball up and down the mast as the Thames tide ebbs and flows. A glazed lift shaft creeps up one side of the tower.

There is one apartment to each floor, except on the top three floors, which are devoted to the spacious and grandiose Penthouse Suite. There are balconies and picture windows presenting views up and down the river. On a clear day the cranes in the docks are visible downstream. Apartment owners can have the interior walls arranged to suit their needs.

All the flats have already been sold at prices ranging from £600,000 to £950,000, according to height. The higher up the flat, the more expensive it is. The Penthouse is not yet for sale, but is expected to fetch around £3 million in due course.

Buyers of the 125-year leases will also have to find a £3,750 service charge and £350 ground rent. Car park spaces in the development's underground car park are £15,000 each, plus an estimated £150 a year service charge.



Level pegging? The Carrolls' view of the Belvedere tower

Growling at the watchdog

How acceptable is any level of nuclear radiation — and who should decide it?

For more than 50 years the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) has recommended the safety limit of exposure to radiation for the public and workers in the nuclear industry. This week, the ICRP's capacity to do so will come under pressure. A petition signed by 750 medical doctors and scientists will be presented at the commission's biennial meeting in Como, Italy, challenging the scientific judgement of the ICRP, and calling for tougher nuclear safety standards.

What will also be questioned is the fact that the ICRP has no legal standing or responsibility to any government, yet it is recognized as the world authority on estimating the risks of contracting cancer from exposure to radiation. These conclusions are used by the nuclear industry when deciding how much money is to be spent on restricting discharges of radioactivity into the environment, and are also behind reassurances that leaks from atomic plants, or the level of radiation in the soil on Cumbrian and North Wales hill farms, are within the recommended safety limits.

However, the ICRP has yet to incorporate the lessons from Chernobyl into its safety equations. Further revisions are needed to include discoveries in studies of nuclear workers and of the survivors and children of the atomic bombs dropped on Nagasaki and Hiroshima.

It is the concept of "acceptable" limits that is at the heart of the controversy. Environmental groups have drawn attention to the influence wielded by this informally appointed commission of 13 men, drawn from 11 countries, and funded by contributions from, among others, the Ford Foundation, the EEC and the nuclear power industry.

A member of Friends of the

Earth, Patrick Green, has produced a study of the changes in safety levels recommended by the ICRP since the 1920s, when concern over the deaths of young radiographers and radiologists involved in the growing field of medical X-rays led to the formation of the International X-Ray and Radium Protection Commission. It was this organization that, in 1950, after the development of nuclear power, evolved into the ICRP.

The unit of measurement has changed, as the commission's involvement has widened. Once, a roentgen a week — equivalent to the power of a single medical X-ray — was the "acceptable" level. Today's "acceptable" level has declined to five millisieverts a year — equivalent to half a roentgen a year.

Green does not feel that there is such a thing as an "acceptable" level. He would like the commission expanded to include environmentalists and medical practitioners involved with the effects of radiation, as well as the physicists and radiologists who at present make up its members. This, truly independent, authority would then ask: "What are the risks, and how do you avoid them?"

The idea of "acceptable" levels was also at the heart of a recent exchange on radiation safety at Hammersmith Hospital. One of the critics, Professor Edward Radford, an epidemiologist from Pittsburgh, doubted whether scientists were the right people to make moral and social judgements on how much radiation exposure was acceptable to the public. One of the two British members of the commission, Professor Roger Berry of Middlesex Hospital, supported the argument. But, he suggested, "the scientist can assist the moral decision".

Pearce Wright

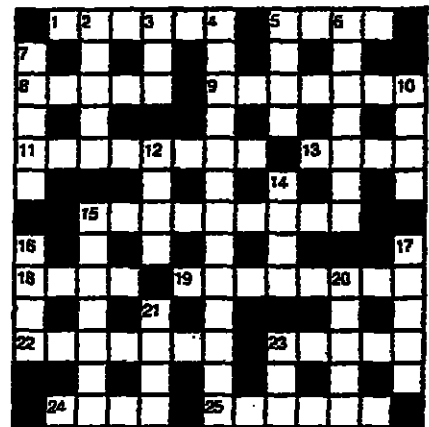
CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1354

ACROSS

- 1 Equanimity (6)
- 5 Devotee (4)
- 8 Complete (5)
- 9 Laborious (7)
- 11 Doodle (8)
- 13 Twist (4)
- 15 Earth eating (9)
- 18 Cannabis (4)
- 19 Large handkerchief (8)
- 22 Hazelnut (7)
- 23 Powerful businessman (5)
- 24 Manipulated person (4)
- 25 Trace from (6)

DOWN

- 2 Football forecast bet (5)
- 3 Be in debt (3)
- 4 Cried-squicken (13)
- 5 Infusion (4)
- 6 South-east US state (7)
- 7 Steal (5)



- 10 Grantham follower (4)
- 12 Nasal toned woodwind (4)
- 14 Old (4)
- 15 Polish statesman 1905-82 (7)
- 16 Chief cook (4)
- 17 Leap over (5)
- 20 Israel semi desert (5)
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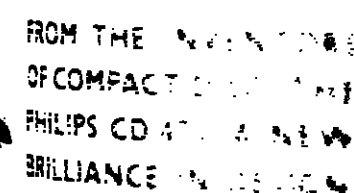


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1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific information required.

1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the problem.

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THE TIMES DIARY

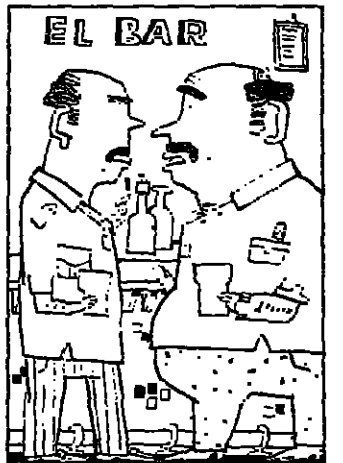
Le Pen pushers

Jean-Marie Le Pen, the French National Front leader, may have been invited to address a fringe conference at next month's Tory conference, but he has been barred from the conference hall. Le Pen's host, Sir Alfred Sherman, had agreed he should apply for an MEP's observer pass through the European branch of the party "to save Central Office embarrassment". But yesterday I learnt from the office of Lord Plumb, the leader of the Tory group in Europe, that the play had failed. "Jim Spicer (a Tory party vice-chairman) has just written to say no way José," they told me. Le Pen had been turned down on the technicality that only MEPs from sister Conservative parties are entitled to passes. If he still considers it worth making the trip to Blackpool, he will have to watch proceedings on a hotel television while awaiting his Thursday night appearance.

Under a cloud

Divine retribution? Ken Livingstone's performance before the Labour party's co-ordinating committee this weekend, when he defended himself against charges of pre-conference anti-Kinnock activities, was brought to an abrupt halt. The cellar of the Fabian Society's Westminster HQ, where the committee was meeting, was flooded by four inches of water during a sudden thunderstorm.

BARRY FANTONI



Wide berth

As Whitehall ministerial teams prepare for the next parliamentary session, the Department of Employment is having trouble filling a key job. Since the Cabinet reshuffle, Conservative Central Office has been helping senior ministers in their search for special advisers, but so far has failed to find anyone for Norman Fowler. I gather that his reputation for being difficult and secretive has led candidates to plump for lighter-weight jobs in other departments. Andrew Turner, who was Fowler's adviser for his last eight months at the DHSS, is staying to work with his successor, John Moore. Turner's predecessor, Nicholas True, who spent four and half years with Fowler, says loyally that his former boss is not one to rush into appointments. "He was at the DHSS for four months before he appointed me."

● The ultimate proof, if needed, that it's not what you know but who you know. A business executive found a Filofax lost by a newspaper advertising rep and was so impressed with the contacts listed inside that he immediately offered the advertising man a job.

Priorities

Northwest Airlines may take the biscuit for corporate stinginess. When one of its planes crashed on a highway near Detroit last month, killing 154 passengers, a Northwest cleaner, Dan Kirsh, dropped his mop and spent 20 hours in rescue attempts. His employer's response to his valiant efforts was, however, less than generous. A day's pay was stopped for deserting his duties. Such was the public outcry that the airline was forced to pay him for the day, but seven colleagues unable to get to work because of the wreckage were less fortunate. Their pay stays docked.

Fleece-lined

The common agricultural policy has been blamed for many things — but never until now preventing trains running on time. I have been passed part of an internal British Rail report explaining how the EEC's policy of encouraging farmers to switch from milk and cereal production has led to a huge increase in raising sheep. "With it rose the frequency of incidents involving small animals on the line," the author laments. Happily, he continues, fine wire meshing has now gone up where lambs are inclined to wander and the number of delays has been drastically reduced.

Suit yourself

One has a certain sympathy with John Holt, leader of the Tory group on Kirkcaldy council, when he says no one knows where it is. He wants to rename the area, which includes Huddersfield and parts of Dewsbury and Batley. "Greater Huddersfield". But perhaps the former Dewsbury Tory MP, John Whitfield, has got it right with "Heavy Woolenbelt."

PHS

The passion for ownership

by John Moore

The two great bulwarks of a free society, the two institutions that are key to maintaining individual liberty, are the free market and private ownership. On the first we have shelves full of brilliant writing. Probably in large part because of this, we are winning the intellectual battle for the free market. But the fight for the idea of the free market has been so intense it has overshadowed intellectual arguments on ownership, on which there is relatively little good modern writing.

Thinking why this should be, it has occurred to me that most political thinkers, and indeed most politicians, come from backgrounds where people own things — houses, cars, property. It is to them part of the natural order of things. They therefore tend to underestimate its power, both as a spur to individual action and as an essential foundation for individual freedom.

Here is where I have an advantage that some might call a disadvantage: my family did not own anything until, late in life, they bought a tiny terraced house in the back streets of Brighton. So I know at first hand the fascination, and the fear, that ownership exerts on those who do not have it. I know at first hand the incentive that hope of ownership provides, and the lessons that the fact of ownership teaches.

I know the feelings of responsibility that ownership creates, the sense of a personal interest in the stability and improvement of the community. I know that ownership teaches the finiteness of resources, the virtues of thrift and the risks and rewards of investment. I know, not in academic terms, but in very personal terms, that when you own something you feel independent, and when you do not you feel vulnerable.

Widespread ownership diffuses power and prevents the concentration that is the prime ingredient of tyranny. This is why I believe it so important that the spread of ownership be a key feature of our government's long-term programme to protect and extend the free society.

In the space of four years the present government has increased

the number of people in Britain owning shares from 7 per cent of the population to 20 per cent. In doing so we had to overcome widespread ignorance of what shareholding is, and the bitter ideological resistance of those people who think capital markets wicked by definition. We had to overcome the inbuilt resistance of the sophisticated people already dealing successfully in the equity markets, mainly with institutions, who thought it totally unnecessary to engage in the hard work of pursuing and servicing myriads of small investors.

We also had to overcome the paternalistic view, widespread in some parts of my own party, that ordinary people should not be allowed to risk their savings in the market, and also the plain snobbery that still lurks in some dusty corners of British life.

Why did we want to overcome all this? What is the point of extending equity ownership anyway? Well, beyond the general virtues of ownership which I have just been extolling, great numbers of ordinary people will, for the first time, have flexible capital assets and a supplementary source of income, however modest; for many people this will lessen the total reliance on a single wage packet which has meant a sometimes frightening dependency.

Wider share ownership is now seen as such a good idea that it is difficult to remember the massive indifference and in some cases overt hostility it inspired barely four years ago.

When I first went to the Treasury in 1983 my brief was tax policy and privatization, but the official attitude was that the job was really tax. The government ministers concerned had to contend with an establishment view that the privatization programme was a bit of an embarrassment.

Those of us who wanted to advance the cause of people's capitalism had to do two things immediately: first, we had to fight and win the intellectual battle for privatization, which meant demonstrating beyond all doubt the

failures of the nationalized industries, and the benefits to employees, consumers and to the country of putting them into the free market.

Second, we had to have a clearly defined long-term strategy which would involve virtually every department of government and thus focus the attention of the public and the politicians firmly on the programme.

We immediately embarked on both. On the philosophical side, a series of speeches was made, setting out the arguments for privatization as strongly as possible. On the practical side, I visited every government department and asked the same question: what in your department is a fit target for privatization and when can you do it? In many cases I was greeted with a marked lack of enthusiasm.

Nevertheless, by January 1984 the strategy for the next five years was complete, showing just what would be privatized and when each sale would take place. The strategy was then clearly endorsed by the Prime Minister and the Cabinet. But still, even then, a great many people did not think it would work. They certainly did not think it would work for British Telecom, which if privatized for more than £4 billion would be the largest equity sale the world had ever seen.

Grudgingly it was accepted that if such a massive offering was to be successful it would have to attract a wide audience, i.e., the mass public, as well as the traditional institutions. Even so, there was little confidence the mass public would buy it, and here is where the lack of understanding of the passion — it is not too strong a word — the passion for ownership that ordinary people have, showed most clearly.

It was thought that people would only buy the shares if there was an immediate inducement to do so, and the favoured method was to be vouchers which could be used to reduce the buyers' telephone bills.

It seemed to me that while

vouchers might very well work in the short term, they did not focus on the objective of wider share ownership and completely ignored the desire for ownership among ordinary people. Instead of the vouchers, I supported the idea of a "small shareholders' bonus" — a 10 per cent dividend of extra shares for every small investor who kept his shares for more than three years.

The battle over this was long and acrimonious. Finally it was agreed to give shareholders a choice, and it is one of the great satisfactions of my political life that 66 per cent of all who subscribed opted for the small holders' bonus.

The BT issue was over-subscribed beyond all expectation and showed that the passion for ownership had been seriously underestimated. Many at the allocation meeting insisted that the big subscribers should get most of what they asked for and the little, often first-time, investors should be left out.

Had this happened I think that the still tentative interest in share ownership by ordinary people would have received a very serious blow. But after an exhaustive debate the radical political will won through. It was decided to give the very smallest applicants absolute priority; the very biggest got nothing.

There are several useful lessons to be learned in considering our wider ownership programme. One is to recognize that the capitalist spirit — which is simply a willingness to invest and take risks in the hope of bettering one's condition — is a part of virtually everyone's make-up and only awaits opportunity to spark action.

The privatization programme has reduced the role of the state, has re-invigorated the free market, and has spread ownership of a new kind more widely than ever before. One hopes that we can go on to design and implement many more programmes and policies that do as much.

The author is Secretary of State for Social Services. This is an edited transcript of a speech given to the Mont Pelerin Society in Indianapolis, USA, on Saturday.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Society's safety catch

Now that the echoes of the Hungerford massacre are ceasing to reverberate (and the next time something like that happens, could we perhaps be spared the dial-a-shrink comments of Dr Anthony Clare?), I want to raise an aspect of the matter that I think has not so far been discussed. And I shall begin with a simple exercise in extrapolation.

There has been much understandable disquiet about the number of guns lawfully held in this country. About 840,000 licences are held for shotguns (most, presumably, being for sport, game and pest control and the like), and certificates for some 160,000 more serious firearms, including handguns. It is argued, with considerable plausibility, that permission to hold a gun is far too easily obtained, and that the enormous number of permissions granted makes inevitably for more violent crime, up to and including such events as we have so recently witnessed: the Chief Constable of the Thames Valley police force has added, most pertinently, that in his view "it does seem incredible that a man is allowed to keep ammunition in his own home".

Now for the extrapolation. Let us suppose — this is not a trick or a game — that there are in Britain, lawfully held, not 160,000 unquestionably dangerous weapons, but five and a half million. Let us suppose further that these are all modern, effective, automatic rifles, with a lethal firepower comparable to the weapon used at Hungerford.

Bear with me a little longer, please. Suppose that the five and a half million guns are kept in working condition, regularly dismounted and cleaned. Suppose that each holder of a gun — I am reckoning one gun per owner — is, in addition, trained in its use and proficient in marksmanship. Finally, suppose that every gun is accompanied by a packet of live ammunition.

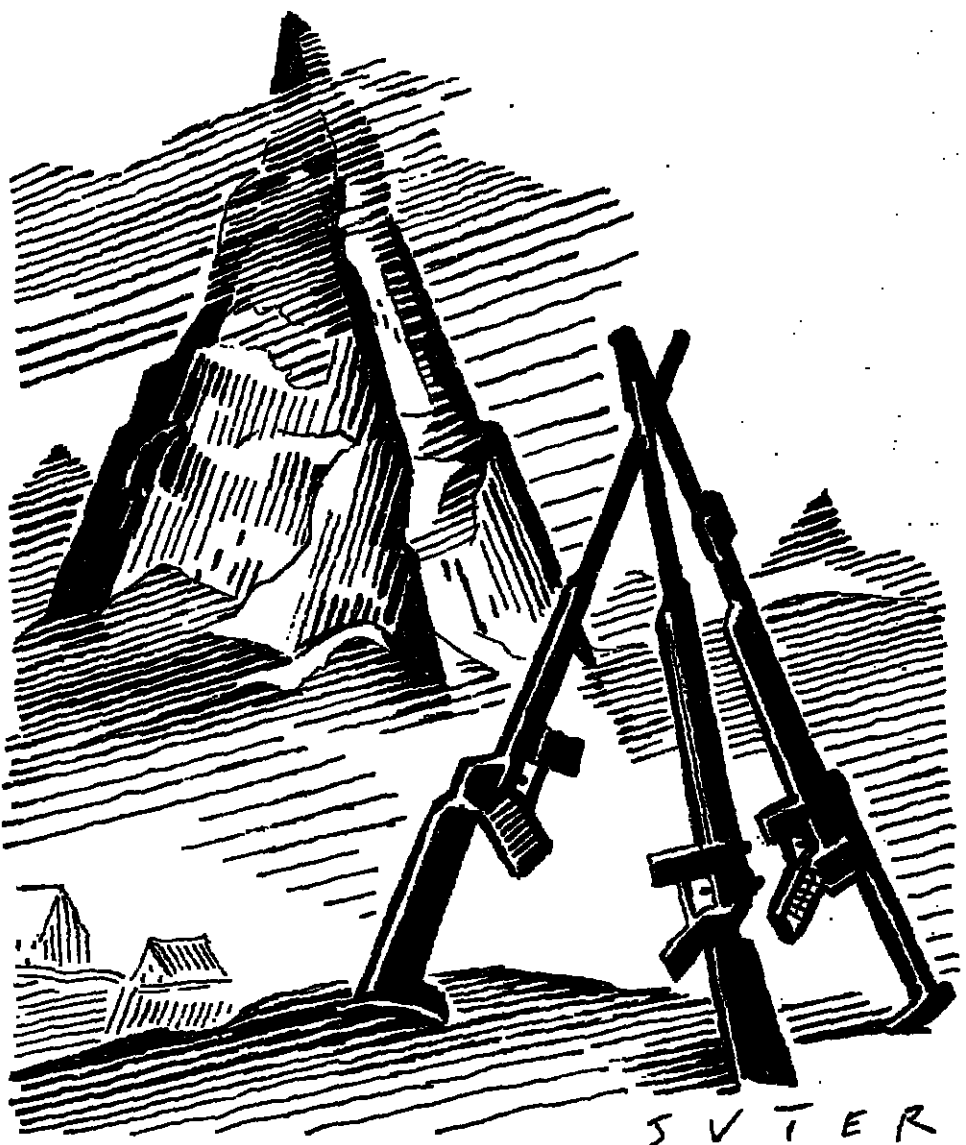
If that state of affairs prevailed, most people, I imagine, would conclude that Britain would be a Gehenna of robbery and murder, revenge and massacre, gang warfare and shoot-outs, where no one would be safe in the streets or the home, and where burglary and rape at gunpoint would be as common as parking offences are today.

You will tell me that the picture I paint is, of course, a grotesque fantasy; no such insane laxity in gun control could possibly be permitted to come to pass. And yet, in the teeth of your revolved incredulity, I tell you that the state of affairs with which I have been making your flesh creep is an exact description of Switzerland at this moment; the only extrapolation has been the one needed to match the proportion of guns to people. There are 630,000 such rifles in Swiss homes; the population of Switzerland is roughly 6.5 million, so there is one such gun and packet of ammunition for every 10 citizens. Britain's population is roughly 55 million, so my figures are correct: 5.5 million British guns.

The reason for the astounding total of weapons in Swiss hands is provided by the Swiss form of national defence. Every Swiss male is subject to conscription; he has a short period of basic training, followed by an annual recall to the colours for a refresher, and he remains on the reserve, doing his regular fortnight in uniform, for 30 years. He keeps his rifle and ammunition at home, and in perfect condition; he is obliged to maintain his proficiency as a marksman, and must undertake extra military service to bring him up to standard if his sharpshooting becomes rusty.

Spot the difference. Switzerland, so far from being the hideous graveyard that you just agreed Britain would become if five and a half million guns were available (together with ammunition and proficiency in using them), is well down the international table for violent crime, below not only Britain but also many countries with stricter gun control than ours.

There is only one possible conclusion, and only one possible question arising from it. The conclusion is that the number of guns in private hands in Britain and Switzerland respectively has no bearing on their respective crime



rates. The question is, of course: what have the Swiss got that we haven't?

There are few direct answers to that question, and not a lot of tentative ones. Many of the indirect answers can be found in an extraordinary and fascinating book called *La Place de la Concorde Suisse*, by John McPhee (published in America by Farrar Straus Giroux); some of my own conclusions, inevitably more cocksure, will be found in my forthcoming book and television series, both called *To the End of the Rhine*. Whichever you choose, you will find many facts about Switzerland far more astonishing than the one about the guns.

However difficult it may be to discover why gun-strewn Switzerland is so much less violence-ridden than Britain, the attempt must be made, at any rate if we are serious about wishing to reduce our own domestic violence to more modest proportions. Some would say that restoring conscription would be the answer, but there is no reason to believe that it would; there are other countries which have compulsory military service and very high crime rates. Another voice would insist that the widespread loss of religious faith is to blame, and seek a renewal of it; well, as far as I know, there is nothing to choose for godliness between the Swiss and the English, and the Northern Irish have a hell of a lot more of it than either. The "We are all guilty" school says that we are responsible because we have not taken enough trouble to understand criminals, whose crimes are only a "cry for help", and a sub-division of this strain of thinking is the belief that it is all the fault of Mrs Thatcher. (Aristo-vary, it's the blacks.)

I think it is something to do with self-sufficiency. Switzerland's neutrality is based — indeed, is coterminous with — her determination to defend herself by her own exertions. Her state of military preparedness is almost unbelievably complete and extensive (see the works cited, *supra*), and no Swiss is in any doubt that it is for use: rather than ornament.

Switzerland learned the lesson during the Second World War when, under the Churchillian leadership of Henri Guisan, she resolved to remain unsubjugated and democratic, and by heroic efforts, did. Since then, she has taken a huge yet quiet pride in the way that her resolution has been maintained and strengthened: "We don't have an army," the Swiss say, "we are an army." (An army, incidentally, that can be fully mobilized in 48 hours.)

Yet there is nothing militaristic about Switzerland; on the contrary, she is the most peaceful and unobtrusive nation in Europe. That unobtrusiveness is rooted in her military determination, but it has been transformed, as it has trickled down through Swiss society, into a pride that encompasses such concepts as cleanliness, efficiency, effort, and, above all, a quality of civility that makes the misuse of the citizen-soldier's rifle an act of shame as well as of crime.

Well, bully for the Swiss; but I am more interested in Britain. How do we start to build up our form of pride in self-sufficiency, in a common identity and common ideals, in a self-respect that can be learnt and in time no longer needs to be taught, in a sense of purpose beyond the concerns of living from day to day, in the belief that the old proverb is right, and if each man sweeps before his door, the village will be clean?

Now for the anti-climax; I don't know. But I know that if we don't start trying to find out it will be too late to put the answers into practice when we finally discover what they are. Dorothy Parker made a remark about Switzerland that has achieved world-wide *réclame*: she called the country "beautiful but dumb", and we have laughed at it as long and as loudly as her fellow Americans. Contemplating those five and a half million automatic rifles, all of a sudden I don't think it's funny any more.

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Graham Mather

What role for the unions?

Union members and potential members are fading away. It seems harsh to suggest to the TUC as it meets today that they can never be brought back again. Trade unions have been around for so long, the unspoken assumption goes, that they must have a special role, if only it could be rediscovered. It is an assumption that sustains those in the TUC engaged on rethinking the unions' position, but it is difficult to square with the facts.

To many observers the approach pioneered by the electricians' union, the EETPU, seems to have most to offer. In return for recognition and, in some cases, the exclusion of other unions, a new type of union will forsake the strike weapon, train and develop its members' skills, respond flexibly to changing technology and abandon militant political aims.

It is an attractive package by the standards of traditional British unions, but it is not a unique package. There is no clear need for a national union to be involved in running what are in practice staff associations within small businesses. Training is not a function which unions alone can provide. Union recognition is not a necessary or even a sufficient condition for the settling of problems in employee relations, as the electronics businesses in the north-west demonstrate.

Employees can learn a skill without a union's involvement. They may find profit-related pay of more practical use than postal ballots in a union, however "moderate" that union may be in consequence. The union can provide them with financial services and employment advice but these services can easily be bought elsewhere. Why should trade unions, the argument will run, enjoy special legal privileges to compete with other providers of these daily necessities?

The "electricians'" option exposes trade unions to competition in all their activities, competition which they may find hard to surmount. Their problem is that they have no unique selling proposition. They are on their own in a competitive market, and their competitors have a head start in terms of brand image, customer appeal and business efficiency, whether selling pensions or insurance or advice.

That is why a second approach, pioneered by John Edmonds of the General, Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied union, may look more promising to some officials. The Edmonds thesis is that unions must reach beyond their members to low-paid, unionized or unemployed workers, campaigning for new legislation to seek to strengthen their position. The strategy depends upon the prospect, at least of a sympathetic response from government: it is now debatable whether a government of any colour would be able to deliver.

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however... Philip Howard

Saying no to nasturtiums

Gardens are fine. It is when it comes to gardening that I throw in the towel. My back is too long, and my hands are too far from the ground. This aversion to tillage may come from having been brought up on a farm, where the children weeded the charlock from the wheat by hand, and later graduated to singling the sugar beet and mangel-wurzels by hoe.

A lot of cant is talked and written about gardening. Paintings by Boucher entitled *La Jardinière Endormie* show a pretty young thing, as immaculate as if she had just stepped out of her boudoir, asleep on piles of plump peonies and improbably clean onions, with a cat curled roughly in her lap. In a real garden her feet and the rest of her would be filthy, there would be mud and slugs everywhere, and the cat would be skulking indoors out of the rain. The cure for thinking gardening is romantic is to notice how all races from Adam onwards have got out of it as soon as possible.

The only garden worth having is an old-fashioned one in a bishop's palace or ancient college, where there are plenty of gardeners to do the dirty work. But the general proposition stands that most gardening is a wearisome business to an unsatisfactory end.

It is avarice for our roots that makes us suppose that there is some moral virtue in gardening. Ralph Waldo Emerson, really rather a dull transcendentalist philosopher, took up gardening. He spent the mornings grubbing and pruning, wrote in his garden, and received visitors in orchard. He sent some pears to the local agricultural show and was gratified when the horticultural society asked to examine his pear trees. He received them with a philosopher's dignified pride, only to discover that they had not come to congratulate him: they wanted to look at the soil that had produced such execrable specimens of such a fine species. Adam's or Old Sod's Laws of Gardening are numerous and depressing. 61: things always look better on the seed packet. 62: it never slugs but it greenflies. 63: you get the most of what you need the least, like nasturtiums. And so on.

Up in darkest Ayrshire they take a particular pride in their gardens: something to do with the Gulf Stream, they say, but then gardeners say that in every corner of our

Even if it did it is far from clear how trade unions themselves would benefit. Campaigning for a minimum wage, for example, would impose formidable strains on union-negotiated differentials favouring existing union members. If problems of this type could be overcome, successful campaigning would in turn not guarantee higher net membership for the campaigning union. The beneficiaries of the campaigning initiatives would have every incentive to "free ride" on Edmonds's strategy, leaving the unions no better off.

This leaves the approach of Norman Willis, the TUC general secretary, which broadly reflects the line of larger traditional unions like the Transport and General Workers. The first limb involves moving to co-ordinate union marketing campaigns, avoid "poaching" and subsidize new recruitment initiatives in particular localities or sectors. The second offers a new image of modern unionism, borrowing from the success of unions like the EETPU, introducing member benefits and financial services.

It is a pragmatic and bureaucratic response to trade union decline, and it runs into several obstacles. Successful "Bridlington" anti-poaching agreements have failed, primarily because unions are in a fiercely competitive shrinking market. Central planning of recruitment initiatives under TUC auspices is unlikely to be to the taste of the more aggressive, entrepreneurial unions.

Among TUC members commitment to new-style unionism does not run deep: a change of presentation and packaging to welcome part-time and self-employed members fails to conceal a continuing drive to use their presence to extract recognition agreements from employers and equate the new workers' terms and conditions to the full-time unionized workforce, removing their competitive advantage. Looking at the back of many union officials' minds is the hope that a more sympathetic government will turn the clock back and reinstate the systems of national economic bargaining, full-fledged collective bargaining and legal aids for union members and the recognition they have lost. That is why the Willis package seems unnecessary as well as unwelcome.

But this is the heart of the trades unions' problem: the products they offered in the past have no demand, the products they hope to sell in the future are available elsewhere. They have the traditions and the structures of the past, a considerable deadweight of custom and precedent, but analysis of the options they are considering this week cannot lead to the conclusion that they have much of a future.

The author is general director of the Institute of Economic Affairs.

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EAST MEETS WEST

When the East German leader, Herr Erich Honecker, arrives in the Federal Republic of Germany today he will be honouring an undertaking given nearly six years ago when Chancellor Schmidt made his pioneering visit to the East. That visit, one of the fruits of Herr Willy Brandt's Ostpolitik, signalled that the Federal Republic was coming to terms with the division of Germany and that a basis existed for a more settled intra-German relationship in the future.

It has taken six years for Herr Honecker to return Chancellor Schmidt's compliments, but the delay reflects less the complexities of East German politics and less the vagaries of German-German relations than the position of Germany at the heart of the broader relationship between East and West. For the existence of two Germanies and the unresolved German question exemplify the mistrust that has accompanied the post-war division of Europe.

Nothing illustrated the place of the intra-German relationship in the wider picture better than the last-minute cancellation of Herr Honecker's planned visit to West Germany three years ago. In the summer of 1984, the superpowers were not on speaking terms. The Moscow leadership was in transition, its political life paralysed. Nato had started the deployment of the new medium-range missiles in Western Europe. But the countries of Eastern Europe, frustrated by Moscow's inactivity, were extending their own political feelers westward.

European countries were seen as brokers between the superpowers, and none more so than East and West Germany. Intra-German relations became a touchstone both for the state of the superpower relationship and for the strength of Soviet authority in Eastern Europe. So when, after oblique but forceful complaints from Moscow, Herr Honecker cancelled his visit to the Federal Republic, the message was clear: Moscow still had the last word in East Germany and there was to be no thaw in East-West relations.

Now the Soviet Union and the United States are once again talking to each other and the Kremlin has a leader who, in actions if not in words, is trying to undo much Soviet foreign policy of the early 1980s. In an improved East-West climate, the significance of the intra-German relationship has diminished. The spotlight has been redirected: Herr Honecker's long postponed visit can take place as a quiet encounter between estranged members of one family. His role on the wider stage has been reclaimed by the main players.

Partly because of this, Herr Honecker's

arrival in Bonn has been preceded by warnings to the West in general and to West Germans in particular not to expect too much. One man, even East Germany's party leader, will be empowered to do nothing that has not been agreed in advance by his masters in Moscow and the diplomats in his Foreign Ministry. The difference it can make to East-West relations is less now than it might have been three years ago.

Certainly, Herr Honecker's talks in Bonn are unlikely to inaugurate a new era of East-West concord in Europe based on a German rapprochement. The speed with which tension builds up periodically in the divided city of Berlin shows just how far the German question still is from being resolved. Too many suspicions lie just below the surface.

Europeans, on either side of the divide, harbour fears about a united Germany. Russians nurture equally deep fears, based on their wartime experience and fostered by successive leaders since, about the nature of West German society, and the United States has its own misgivings about a potentially self-sufficient, anti-American Europe with Germany at its centre.

To expect nothing, however, from an East German leader's first foray beyond the Berlin Wall is to be too pessimistic. The West can hope that Herr Honecker and those accompanying him will gain a better appreciation of the achievements and the character of West Germany in comparison with the East. It can hope that they will come to understand better why some of their own citizens live only to escape to the West.

The West can also hope that West Germans who meet Herr Honecker and his delegation will use the opportunity to elaborate on what it is that makes West Germany, for all its failings, so flourishing an example of a Western democracy and a free market economy, and to present the Western view of human rights violations in East Germany. The more than one thousand petitions that have been delivered to the East German mission in Bonn, some citing individual human rights cases, others calling generally for freer movement between the two Germanies, should be brought to Herr Honecker's personal attention.

How these representations are treated, by Herr Honecker and by those members of his party who may assume leadership positions in future, will determine the longer term significance of this week's visit. If they are ignored, the visit will be little more than the pilgrimage of an elderly communist to the land of his birth.

A TALE OF TWO SCHOOLS

Alone among Cabinet ministers, it used to be said, the political reputation of a Home Secretary was in daily risk of destruction by totally extraneous and unexpected events. But, as the Education Secretary Mr Kenneth Baker returns to his office from holiday today, he may reflect that he is now the minister at risk from the periphery of his empire.

In considering the parents' revolt at Dewsbury, he has to do a balancing act. He has to weigh the expectations which he has raised about parental choice against the practicalities of existing schools, classrooms and numbers. He has to measure the popular appeal of his Conservative philosophy against the principle that the state must deal even-handedly with citizens regardless of their skin colour.

Mr Baker must respect the principle of parental choice that he intends to bring into legislation. But he must also respect the principle of educational order that underpins all these reforms. The disorderliness of the 26 Dewsbury families who have played politics in the playground will be difficult for him to condone, however strong his assessment of their sincerity.

It is worth noting how orderly the authorities have been. The appeals of the discontented parents were heard by the very tribunal which Mr Baker's Conservative predecessors set up in the 1980 Education Act. Some appeals were accepted; others were rejected for reasons it seems of distance.

Kirklees is not an extremist left-wing authority. It has been a hung council for a number of years. With hindsight it might be said that the council (and the Church of England authorities who retain a major stake in curriculum and entry) should have ensured there was a more balanced school population. However concentrated the Asian population in Dewsbury, this should have been possible. But for Mr Baker to intervene strongly now would not only be a rather crude rejection of his own colleagues' legislative labours but would risk seeming to be a rejection of the principle of educational order.

As Secretary of State, he can now act in two guises: as court of appeal under the 1980 Act or in pursuit of his general responsibility under

the 1944 Education Act. Or he can choose not to act, leaving matters to Kirklees, having satisfied himself that the council has acted reasonably.

As an accomplished politician too, however, he will almost certainly find that the interest surrounding this case means that passivity is not an option. What Mr Baker must not do is appear to undermine the orderly processes of educational administration. He is soon going to have to rely on them himself.

This means rejecting playground protest tactics. The rules allowed Dewsbury parents an appeal to Mr Baker. But without waiting for its outcome they have been using the media to circumvent due process. So first, Mr Baker must disavow the parents' tactics. Second, he must use his good offices at entering negotiation: there are more than two schools involved and there is space for the children of the 26 families to be found in schools other than those in dispute.

But third, he must spell out in considerably more detail the relation between his new national curriculum and the problem of so-called "multi-culturalism" which is behind the events in Kirklees. The key principle is clear: to secure public funds and be regarded as part of a state educational system certain standards have to be observed. They include certain rules for the treatment of women; they include a degree of knowledge and understanding of the history and culture of Great Britain. It is perfectly feasible for a school to offer those and to serve chapatis at lunch.

Britain is, like it or not, a multi-cultural society. That means, for instance, that religious observance in schools can not be universally based on Christianity. But it does not mean that the teaching of technology or Shakespeare should be sacrificed in respect for the tenets of Islam.

It is perhaps incumbent on Kenneth Baker — given the publicity — to ask for a report from Her Majesty's Inspectors. If they report adversely, then he should press Kirklees into action. To bow to playground pressures meanwhile is neither a reformer's nor a statesman's line.

Insects and bracken

From Mr R. W. Paine
Sir, Sir Christopher Lever (September 1) seems to be unaware of the successes with introduced insects in the South Pacific in the 1920s. Three serious insects and one plant pest have been and remain under close control in Fiji by introduced insects.

One pest, the Coconut Leaf Moth (*Levinsia*), which prevented copra production on Viti Levu, now even seems to be extinct. Rather sad, as it was an attractive little moth! But coconut palms are now fully fruitful on that island and none of the introduced species has been known to cause the slightest damage except to the pests for which they were introduced.

Not all attempts at biological control with introduced alien species have been "a roll-call of disasters". Yours faithfully,
RON PAINE,
11 The Cobble,
Wingate Way,
Trumpington, Cambridge

Reform of ILEA

From the Leader of ILEA
Sir, Lady Porter's desire for cutting back on education in inner London (September 1) has brought her into the realm of fantasy.

It is untrue to suggest that "in terms of exam results, out of 97 authorities, only two are worse" than ILEA. The most recent survey of such results, covering 96 authorities, was produced by Sheffield University and, like an earlier DES survey, analysed performance in the context of the social and economic conditions prevailing in each local education authority area.

ILEA's place at number 56 is "average", a result we are constantly striving to improve, but is well ahead of, for example, Bromley (96), Essex (92), Enfield (80) and Barking (79), which might be an omen of what Westminster parents can look forward to with Lady Porter's cuts.

It is equally misleading to suggest that "only 23 per cent of parents are fully satisfied with the

education their children receive". In ILEA, we are constantly seeking the views of parents on all aspects of their children's education. For that reason, our research and statistics branch have produced an annual qualitative survey of parents. In 1986, 73 per cent of parents questioned were either "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with their children's ILEA secondary school. This compared with 70 per cent in 1985.

But the real concern for Londoners must be Westminster Council's apparent haste to introduce education cuts in both their own area and throughout inner London. As 300,000 schoolchildren return to school and hundreds of thousands of Londoners begin further, higher and adult education courses in the next few weeks, they will be wary of Lady Porter's haste.

Yours faithfully,
NEIL FLETCHER, Leader,
Inner London Education
Authority,
The County Hall, SE1,
September 1.

Competition in power industry

From Lord Ezra
Sir, Your Energy Correspondent reported (August 31) that leading City brokers forecast "a bleak future" for power station equipment manufacturers if the electricity supply industry was privatised.

I do not particularly support the view that privatisation is appropriate for a basic utility like electricity. However, I strongly believe that if it is to be privatised there must be competition. This essentially means that the grid would need to be separately owned, preferably by a public body, and provide access, on suitable terms and conditions, to all electricity generators, whether large or small.

One of the benefits of competition would be the increasing variety of ways in which electricity would be generated; and refurbishment of existing smaller stations (to which your correspondent referred) offers many attractive possibilities. This is particularly so when refurbishment involves installing combined heat and power systems, such as is being considered in Leicester, Newcastle, Sheffield and other city centres.

For too long has there been a policy of concentrating on the policy of massive new power stations, with a capacity of 1,500 or 2,000 megawatts, in replacement of smaller stations which have been closed. The equipment ordering process has in consequence been uneven, with long periods of no orders, interspersed with relatively short periods of substantial ordering, as is now contemplated.

Would the equipment manufacturers not be better off with a continuing run of orders for smaller equipment for which competition could stimulate a lively demand?

Yours faithfully,
DEREK EZRA,
House of Lords.

From Dr David Lowry
Sir, Your leaders on the privatisation of the electricity supply industry (ESI) (August 17,

28) two key issues were not addressed, those of nuclear safety and nuclear insurance.

The Central Electricity Generating Board executive charged with overseeing privatisation, corporate managing director, Mr John Baker, is on record at a conference on the future of the ESI, in June, 1985, as suggesting that

fragmentation of private ownership of electricity supply would seem likely to lead to a reorientation of the nuclear regulatory process in the UK. Most observers would regard this as a retrograde step because it would diminish the responsibility of the utilities themselves and weaken their currently unambiguous accountability to achieve high standards of safety.

The CEGB is currently covered by insurance provided by the Electricity Producers Insurance Company and other mutual insurance. It is not clear what would happen under privatisation.

At the beginning of last month in the US attempts were made in Congress to raise federal nuclear accident insurance cover under the 30-year-old Price-Anderson Act 10-fold, to cover \$7,000 million. No private insurance company is prepared to take on the risk.

With permission for the go-ahead for a second pressurised water reactor at Hinkley Point C being currently sought by the CEGB, and already opposed by the TUC in its special report on nuclear energy (paragraph 511) issued in July, despite the promise of 10,000 jobs arising, I think the privatisation issue deserves continued and widespread debate because of its complexities.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID LOWRY,
The Open University,
Energy and Environment
Research Unit,
Faculty of Technology,
Walton Hall,
Milton Keynes,
Buckinghamshire,
September 1.

Church preservation

From the Chairman of the Council for the Care of Churches
Sir, May I comment on recent letters in your columns regretting changes within Anglican parish churches.

The complex system of care and control of Anglican churches depends, in essence, on the judgement of the diocesan chancellor who, in the case of disposal of articles of historic or artistic interest, can ask this council for advice at a national level. He did not do so in the case of the pews at Stone referred to by Mr Williams (August 12) and he was therefore presumably satisfied that the proposal did not involve such considerations.

Mr Pickenill (August 22) writes of "so-called organ advisers" who suggest that pipe organs of historic interest should be discarded in favour of electronic instruments. Again, every diocese has at least one diocesan organ adviser whose concern it is to protect our historic and musical heritage. There can be no justification for parishes destroying organs of historical or musical quality, and we are not aware of any Anglican churches where this has occurred in recent years.

Gazumping reform

From Mr M. A. W. Vale
Sir, The letter from Mr T. M. Aldridge (August 31) indicates that sales by auction by trustees eliminate the possibility of gazumping by trustees. In the present state of the law (which is mandatory, not permissive as Mr Aldridge's use of "may" implies), and of the property market, an auction sale is not necessarily a panacea for the real and practical problems of trustees.

Professional advisers may be reluctant to recommend auction for there is usually more delay, with extra printing, arrangements for and hire of a suitable venue and other extra costs to be considered.

And what are trustees to do about pre-auction offers? Will the property, allowing for extra costs already incurred, sell better by private treaty now or should the auction proceed?

The latter course allows time for further pre-auction offers and the former can give rise to gazumping if there is any delay — e.g., if a special contract has to be prepared.

Yours faithfully,
M. A. W. VALE,
The Old Vicarage,
Speen Lane,
Newbury, Berkshire.

Chemical dangers

From Mrs Christine Rahner
Sir, I recently found some old sachets of pesticides in my garden shed and wanted to get rid of them safely. To my amazement I found that it is virtually impossible in this country to dispose of "household size" amounts of garden chemicals, or batteries for that matter, in a safe way.

In other European countries batteries can be handed back to the shops who sold them. Here all one can do is dump them into the household rubbish.

The hazardous waste unit of my borough only collects large amounts of dangerous waste and doesn't bother with "insignificant" amounts.

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTIANE RAHNER,
4 Parsfall Road, NW6.

There may be inner city churches with fine Victorian organs which the congregations cannot afford to maintain. In such cases there is clearly an argument for introducing an electronic organ to accompany worship provided that the Victorian organ is retained and protected against the day when it may be possible to restore it, or find a use for it in another church.

Mr Pickenill's final paragraph is a slur on the name of Oliver Cromwell, who was himself an organist and saved the organ from Magdalen College, Oxford, by having it moved to Hampton Court for his own use. That it was preserved to stand today in Tewkesbury Abbey is largely thanks to Cromwell.

The Anglican system has recently been the subject of a lengthy and detailed review, and has been confirmed by the Government. A system which must balance the use of buildings with their preservation is bound to dissatisfy some of the people some of the time. The vital point must surely be that each decision is reached in a fair and open manner.

Yours faithfully,
T. ERIC EVANS, Chairman,
Council for the Care of Churches,
83 London Wall, EC2.

Nursing degrees

From Miss Emma Elliott
Sir, As a student about to begin my final year of a nursing degree course, I am delighted that your correspondent, Dr Peter Swann (September 2) has brought into the open at last the plight of trainees like me. But I venture to suggest that he may have underplayed the seriousness of the situation.

Not only are we completely unpaid for our work in hospitals but our grant is actually reduced during the extra weeks which we spend at the hospital while other students are on vacation. Once we are able to return home we find it almost impossible to get a part-time job as other students have naturally snapped up those that are available.

We are, like other nurses, dedicated to helping the sick and by taking a degree hope to make that help even more skilled and knowledgeable. The penalty we have to pay for gaining additional qualifications, however — and the cost to our parents in the meantime — will inevitably prove too great for all but a handful of students, condemning the entire degree scheme to ultimate failure.

Yours sincerely,
EMMA ELLIOTT,
Four Gables,
74 Ashbourn Road,
Haywards Heath, West Sussex.

Book of rules

From Mr Gerald Hartup

Sir, British Coal's Mr Kevin Hunt correctly criticises the NUM (report, August 29) for its rule book which gives very few rights to members accused of breach of rule.

An even more valuable intervention from Mr Hunt would be to tell its employees that it makes no difference to British Coal whether they are members of the NUM, UDM, or no union at all. Then the NUM's rule book wouldn't matter much.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD HARTUP
(Consulting Director),
The Freedom Association,
Avon House,
360-366 Oxford Street, W1.

'Spycatcher' and BBC payments

From Mr A. M. MacDonald

Sir, During recent weeks my name has been quoted by several of your contemporaries with an interview which I gave to the BBC, designed to form a small part of a *Panorama* programme on the publication of *Spycatcher* written by Mr Peter Wright, who served under me from 1965-1970.

I do not complain of this publicity, although I could well have done without it. I am however concerned that the BBC are said to have "squandered" sums ranging up to £20,000 on the project.

I wish to make it quite clear that I did not accept any payment from the BBC. I did however ask that any payment which might be made should be donated to a registered charity wholly maintained by the few surviving officers of the Indian Police, that corps d'élite in which I learned my trade until I retired at the age of 31, just before India gained independence. I was then recruited by MIS, to whom I was already known.

I did not wish to "hitch a lift" on the golden chariot so triumphantly driven by Mr Wright, his axes greased by the fable and counter-productive policy of seeking to ban his book.

To have accepted payment from the BBC would have been, for me, to emulate the conduct of Mr Wright himself. No payment was made to the charity either. I am quite content that this be the position.

Yours truly,
A. M. MACDONALD,
Alpes Maritimes, France.
August 24.

Motorway design

From Mr W. F. Winston

Sir, On August 29 you published two letters which express important misconceptions about the country's transportation system. Dr G. L. Huxley favours full use of former and existing railways before we invest in trunk roads and motorways, on the ground that railways served us well in the past.

Today the country has a vast road infrastructure, of which trunk roads and motorways are only a part, giving door-to-door transportation and operated as a network. The population, industry and commerce are deployed round this infrastructure.

Never at any time has the railway system provided such a transportation infrastructure, and railways operate as a series of lines rather than as a network. There is, then, no railway golden age which we can revive.

Both Dr Huxley and Mr Bruce Oliver treat road traffic congestion as a problem which can be dealt with in isolation. The growth in road traffic is a manifestation of the growth in the economy. To call for the trend to be reversed, as Mr Oliver does, amounts to proposing an economic recession, which is not acceptable. Thus the growth trend cannot be reversed in general but only locally when, for instance, a by-pass road is built.

In practice it is necessary to strike as best possible a balance between the requirements of an expanding economy, that is of the public, and the interests of individuals and the environment.

Yours sincerely,
W. F. WINSTON,
12 Grange Meadow,
Banstead, Surrey,
September 1.

Electoral rolls

From Mrs Eloise Akpan

Sir, You reported yesterday (August 26) that electoral registers are said to be flawed. My husband and I had evidence in the recent election that they certainly are, for we received seven voting cards.

Apart from the two to which we were entitled, we received two from our former constituency, two for the previous occupants of this house and one proxy card addressed to somebody who moved away from here 10 years ago.

The electoral roll seems to be just one more of our precious public assets falling into disrepair from wilful neglect.

Yours faithfully,
ELOISE AKPAN,
28 Hurlstone Road,
South Norwood, SE25.
August 27.

Waistful practice

From Dr J. V. Groudes-Peace

Sir, When I was a boy, it was common knowledge that a certain manufacturer of mustard had made his fortune, not from the amount of his product consumed, but from the amount left on the side of people's plates.

I feel obliged to extend this complaint. Now, various sauces are sold in jars and bottles so that they can only be emptied totally by very patient and time-consuming means.

My housekeeper protests that she doesn't like to see me robbed. Therefore she upends the "empty" bottle over a newly started oven, leaving it to drain overnight. Even so, it never empties completely. This is because the bottle is designed with a "waist" an inch or so from the bottom which ensures that the latter cannot be reached with a spoon.

Does this not display small-minded meanness on the part of the manufacturers?

Yours faithfully,
J. V. GROUNDES-PEACE,
Fikins,
Lechlade, Gloucestershire,
August 31.

Prospects for family courts

From the Lord Chancellor

Sir, I read with surprise the letter from Mr David Cannon about family courts on September 4. He claims that the Government has decided to abandon family courts. I would quote, in reply, to you and to him, the following extract from an article, "Will the family court win its case with costs?", on July 24 by Frances Gibb, your Legal Affairs Correspondent:

Lord Havers, the new Lord Chancellor, said two days ago that the Government was "still on station" for a decision by the end of the year. His words kindled fresh spirit in the supporters of this long awaited measure.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HAVERS,
House of Lords,
September 4.



ON THIS DAY

SEPTEMBER 7 1904

Puerto Rico was occupied by the United States at the end of the Spanish-American war of 1898. The replacement of an autocratic Spanish regime by a restricted system of popular government was considered by some to have been too big a step taken too soon.

THE AMERICANS IN PUERTO RICO

(From Our West Indian Correspondent.)

The methods and results of American colonial administration should be of peculiar interest to Englishmen as members of a race which has for centuries been foremost in the work of colonization in every quarter of the globe. The Americans have now been five years in Puerto Rico endeavouring to place the colony on a political and economic basis in correspondence with the ideals of American statesmanship, and their efforts and performance during that period are worthy of careful and detailed study. When the island was taken from the native population received the Americans with demonstrations of genuine satisfaction, in the belief that a new and beneficial order of things was to be established. Possessing all the attendant qualities of the Latin temperament, poetic, imaginative, and impressionable, they indulged in the highest expectations regarding the practical effect of the transfer of flags. They thought of the United States as a wealthy and philanthropic Power which would banish the Spaniards from the island, reorganize the system of government, and bring prosperity to every individual in the country. The upper classes extended to the conquerors not only the ordinary courtesies of life, but also social privileges which are rarely conceded to strangers. On their part the Americans were hardly less enthusiastic; they went to the island eager to undertake the work of regeneration, and determined to introduce from the outset the broadest principles of political liberty and self-government. They were cautioned, not unkindly, by experienced observers to proceed very carefully with the task of altering the habits and practices of a people alien alike in language, religion, and sentiment; but, if they paid momentary heed to the warning, their prudence disappeared before a state of social disorder which shocked their sense of the fitness of things, and they devoted themselves to the process of reform with an energy and thoroughness probably unparalleled in the history of tropical colonization. Whatever mistakes they may make in their colonial policy, one is compelled to admire them for the fearlessness and directness with which they attack problems and the completeness with which they solve them. But it is now generally acknowledged that they took too little stock of the human factor in the question and went too fast for the people they sought to Americanize. Coincident with the introduction of governmental machinery, a series of modern laws was imposed on the country which seemed to the American authorities indispensable for the well-being of the population. Nothing could be more admirable or more perfect from a purely theoretical and scientific point of view. But in many instances the new requirements were so revolutionary in character and so much in advance of public opinion that they roused objection and active hostility. An apparent evil was no sooner discerned than it was remedied; in some cases social questions were summarily decided which the British West Indian colonies have been studying for generations and cannot as yet see their way to settle. Regulations were so minute and far-reaching that they even provided against expectation in public, the use of the ox-goad, the sale of bread in baskets or on horseback, the display of confectionery and other articles uncovered in streets, shops, and hotels, and the sale of multi-coloured paperclips during carnivals because of the danger involved to the eyes of the community. Such interference with time-honoured customs was a source of irritation and annoyance to the natives. There were others...



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE
September 5: The Right Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) and Mr Denis Thatcher have arrived at the Castle.

The Right Hon Mrs Margaret Thatcher, MP had an audience of The Queen this evening.

September 6: Divine Service was held in Cranle Parish Church this morning.

The sermon was preached by the Rev Colin Douglas.

The Queen was represented by the Earl of Arran (Lord in Waiting) at the service to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Independence of Trinidad and Tobago which was held in St Margaret's, Westminster, this afternoon.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
September 5: The Duchess of York, President of Action Research, this evening attended a ball hosted by Mr and Mrs Robert Sangster at The Nursery, Isle of Man, in aid of Action Research for the Crippled Child and the Save the Children Fund.

Chains from a feudal past

If the Vatican really is on a collision course with the Roman Catholic Church in the United States, as many commentators are saying on the eve of Pope John Paul II's visit there, it is not very surprising.

One of the most difficult problems facing a large and ancient international organization like the Roman Catholic Church is the inevitable conflict between its structure and system of government, and the diverse expectations of its members of many nationalities.

In the western democracies, expectations are bound to be democratic. Their political culture is not only a conscious reference point but shapes the kind of people they are.

In a Republic like the United States especially, the political culture is based on the principle that sovereignty rests with the people as a whole, and so American Catholics are bound to have the utmost problem living in a church whose method of government is essentially still that of a feudal absolute monarchy.

The British situation is a little easier, because of the British experience of monarchy. But it is not surprising that British Catholics of a liberal disposition, when they imagine ways in which the papacy might be reformed to make it more attractive to

themselves or to Britons in general, think in terms of a constitutional papacy developing as the British constitutional monarchy has done.

The General Synod of the Church of England is a perfect example of a type of church government based upon a secular model, in this case the British parliament.

Anglicans and British Catholics, who sometimes suggest that the Roman Catholic Church would be better run if it adopted such a pattern for itself, are not sufficiently aware that they are idealizing their own local political experience as if it were a universal norm.

The Roman Catholic system is itself an echo of systems of civil government which were once general throughout Europe but have now vanished. It bears some resemblance to the French system of government under Louis XIV. And it suffers from the disadvantage, in coping with those of its members who live in western liberal democracies, that this *Antient Regime* type of government, in the secular sphere, is widely regarded not just as obsolete but as oppressive and tyrannical.

The Second Vatican Council and the subsequent revision of Canon Law in the light of it, resulted in the partial enfranchisement of one class of Catholic only, the

Bishops. But each Bishop in his own diocese is still in principle a feudal baron. Good barons consult their subjects, of course, and listen to their grievances; but they do not have to do so.

There is still a slight aura of disloyalty and disrespectability about groups of Catholics who form lobbies and pressure groups, or who engage in public criticism of their Bishops, even though these are normal and legitimate processes universally used in secular society.

Later this year an International Synod of Bishops is to meet in Rome to discuss some current tensions in the church under the ubiquitous heading of "laity".

Throughout the world, the Bishops due to attend that Synod have been preparing for it by consulting their lay folk widely, for they have recognized the extreme embarrassment, even the absurdity, of discussing the laity in their absence without even asking them what they think.

But they will have great difficulty in digesting what lay Catholics have said, or in responding in any way that makes sense, if they fail to recognize how big the gulf has grown between the civil secular conception of a citizen and the ecclesiastical conception of a layman.

The latter is still at the status of a feudal vassal. Not

surprisingly, most lay people fail to feel entirely comfortable with such a role. Indeed, the more they try to fit into it, the more likely they are to experience a kind of schizophrenic dissociation between the two halves of themselves: one a mature adult as a citizen, the other an untrustworthy child as a Christian.

The Synodical Bishops' meeting in Rome would do better to acknowledge that they are more part of the problem than part of the solution. Rather than look too hard for things to say to the laity to make them feel better, they could more usefully look to their own role, and to the theory of feudal "hierarchy" they embody.

The particular character of the Catholic laity comes from the particular character of the church's hierarchical system of government.

It has not enough room in it for those features of human personality which all western democracies regard as priceless assets to be defended to the death, and of which paradoxically the Catholic Church itself, in its intervention on the side of social justice in the sphere of secular politics, has become an outstanding defender.

Otherwise the sort of conflicts now brewing inside the Roman Catholic Church in America could become both universal and critical.

OBITUARY

BILL FRASER

Exact and generous professional

Bill Fraser, actor, who died on September 5, at the age of 79, had so vast a television public for his long-sustained performance of Sergeant Major Snudge ("Ave no fear, Snudge is 'ere") to the Bootsie of Alfie Bass, that his work in the theatre could have been undervalued.

Basically a comedian, he had, when needed, a quiet, emotional quality that he used with effect in such a part as the impoverished Tolyagin in Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*.

A big man, loosely built, with eyes expressively watchful, angry or hurt, he had a redoubtable vocal authority — "a voice that sounds as if it has been funnelled through vintage port", as it was once described. He could fit it to Shavian precision or to the stirring (never exaggerated) of the drunken Yorkshire photographer in Priestley's *When We are Married*, a man like a gently toppling bear.

It took him some time to be fully recognized, though among his colleagues he was always accepted as an exact and generous professional, entirely assured in a range of parts to which, physically, he was assigned from the first.

In middle age he became familiar at the Chichester Festival, and at Stratford he was perfectly cast in the jovial skimming of Sir Toby in *Twelfth Night*. But once he had made his major television success — first in *The Army Game* and later, in *Bootsie and Snudge* — it was hard to speak of him without reverting to the much-loved partnership with Alfie Bass (who died only a few weeks ago) as the malingering Bootsie.

Fraser was a Scot, born at Perth on June 5, 1908, and intended originally for a commercial career as a bank clerk. He finally persuaded his parents to let him go on stage. "They were convinced I would go to hell. Instead, I went to London." So poverty-stricken were his early days that he spent nights sleeping on the Embankment.

An early chore, he later recalled, was to learn English. He compiled his own Scottish-English "dictionary", and he spent hours reciting "While I was on the balcony eating salmon I saw a mass of people on the grass".

He came to the stage in his early twenties and had



experience in repertory and on a Far Eastern tour. It was in 1933, only two years after going into the theatre, that he formed his own repertory company at the Connaught, Worthing, and this he ran with much success until the beginning of the war. Among his recruits there (in 1936) was Peter Cushing, who has written gratefully of Fraser's compassionate response to a newcomer.

When he left Worthing, Fraser appeared in London in two versions (at the Comedy and Apollo) of the review, *New Faces*.

He served from 1941 as a signals officer in the RAF. At Eindhoven he decided to put on a Christmas show and called for volunteers. Among those who came forward were Eric Sykes ("I can do drunk men very well") and Denis Norden.

Fraser did not reach the stage again until a revue at the Playhouse in 1946. For some time afterwards he was in supporting parts in the West End and elsewhere, and from 1956 to 1958 he directed a summer show at coastal resorts.

Still, by now *The Army Game*, which would go to *Bootsie and Snudge*, was glorifying Fraser and Bass. It would be 1963 before Fraser arrived at the Mermade as Bullinger in Brecht's *Schwartz in the Second World War*.

During the mid-1960s he had his earliest Chichester Festival seasons when he played (with Alastair Sim) in *The Clandestine Marriage*, with John Clements as the Porter in *Macbeth*, and Fishchik in *The Cherry*.

BILL BOWES

Mr Bill Bowes, who has died at the age of 79, was a stalwart of the all-conquering Yorkshire side of the 1930s. After his retirement as a player, in 1947, he became cricket correspondent, first of the *Yorkshire Evening News* and then the *Yorkshire Evening Post*.

William Eric Bowes was born at Eland, near Leeds, on July 25, 1908. He was an unlikely figure to be an effective bowler.

Tall and bespectacled, he came to recognition through answering an advertisement sent out by the MCC in 1928. The club was establishing for the first time a groundstaff of young professionals, and Bowes became one of them.

In his first year there he did the hat trick for MCC against Cambridge University, and in 1929 he made his first appearance for his native county, on loan from MCC.

In the following year he was awarded his Yorkshire cap, and by 1931 he was taking 100 wickets in the season, a feat that he was to achieve nine times.

In 1932, against India at Lord's, he played in the first of his 15 Test matches; and in

1933, against Northamptonshire at Kettering, he returned the extraordinary match figures of 16 wickets for 35 runs in 29.3 overs.

His success was based on a high bowling arm, which gave him steep bounce, and a somewhat cross-legged action, which enabled him to swing the ball. He was a brisk pace without often being genuinely fast.

With his most famous delivery he bowled Bradman first ball in the second Test match at Melbourne in 1932-3. That was his only Test appearance on the body-line tour, though he himself had bowled body-line for Yorkshire against Surrey at the Oval in 1932, much to the dismay of P. F. Warner, who was cricket correspondent of *The Morning Post* at the time.

After the war, in which he was taken prisoner by the Italians, he had two seasons for Yorkshire before retiring. He was Alec Bedser's opening bowling partner in the first post-war Test match, against India at Lord's in June, 1946. The pair became firm friends.

As a player and, later, as a writer on the game, Bowes was a popular figure: friendly,

Orchard, there showing his restrained emotional power in the scene when the old neighbour realizes that the family is going for the last time.

In the following year (1967) he was people as different but as credibly created as Philip's Devon farmer in *The Farmer's Wife*, and Shaw's Boss Mangan in *Heartbreak House*, which he acted later in the West End.

By now it was obvious that Fraser would appear with the Royal Shakespeare Company which he did at Stratford in 1969 as Sir Toby and with the National at the Old Vic where his parts in 1970-71 included Sir George in Shaw's early *Mrs Warren's Profession* and Croaker in Goldsmith's seldom revived *The Good-Natured Man*.

In 1973, he was that Shavian dictionary of quotations, Tarleton, in *Misalliance* at the Mermade; at Chichester (1975), the tannery owner Morten Kill in Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People*; and there, in 1976, Maugham's irritable veteran, Lord Porteous, in *The Circle*, afterwards at the Haymarket.

So forward to Sir William Gower, remembering Kean, in *Travels in the Wells at the Old Vic*; and Fishchik in *Macbeth* (Haymarket, 1982); and the wandering photographer in Priestley's *When We are Married* (Whitehall, 1986).

Meantime, his television appearances included Judge Bullimore in *Rumpole of the Bailey*, *The Comedians*, and a BBC serial *Flesh and Blood*. He was also a splendid Mr Micawber in the BBC's serialization of *David Copperfield*.

His films included *A Home of your Own*, *The Eye of the Needle* and *Wagner*, as well as several *Carry On* productions. Fraser cared deeply about the theatre, and an abiding dream was to see a theatre established to play Shaw's works in repertory all the year round.

He contributed a (humorous) chapter to a guide to prospective shop owners, *Minding my own Business* (1960), based on his own experience running a sweet shop at Lifford.

He married, in 1981, the actress Pamela Cundell, a longtime friend. She survives him with their stepdaughter.

humorous and with a pipe-smoker's wheeze that could be heard a long way off.

A la la the Cockney and Bow Bells, it was said that the definition of a Yorkshireman was to have been born within the sound of Bill Bowes.

He loved to be asked about the theory and practice of bowling, and possessed a home-spun philosophy which made him a delightful Press box companion in Australia, where he reported the first three MCC tours after the war, as well as in England.

His autobiography, *Express Deliveries*, published in 1949 and all his own work, was a model of its kind.

All told, Bowes took 1,639 first class wickets at 16.76 apiece, 68 of them for England. As a batsman, he was an authentic number 11, and he was merely a jovial filler. His last appearance on the cricket scene was at Headingley for the Test match against Pakistan two months ago.

He was a member also of the Magic Circle, the brotherhood of conjurers — like Jack Mercer, the old Glamorgan player and Northamptonshire scorer, who himself died last week, at the age of 92.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Elizabeth I. reigned 1558-1603. Greatwood Palace 1533; Stephen Hales, clergyman and chemist, Bekebourne, Kent, 1677; Comte de Buffon, naturalist, Montbard, France, 1707; William Butterfield, architect, London, 1814; Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, prime minister, 1869-08, Glasgow, 1836; Dame Edith Sitwell, Scarborough, 1887.

DEATHS: Catherine Parr, sixth wife of Henry VIII, Sudley Castle, Gloucestershire, 1548; Hannah More, writer and social reformer, Bristol, 1833; John Greenleaf Whittier, Quaker poet, Amesbury, Massachusetts, 1892.

A memorial service for Mrs Grizel Hartley will be held in Eton College Chapel at 2.45 pm on Friday, September 25.

Marriages

Mr C.G.D. Mackintosh and Lady Fiona Hare.

The marriage took place on Saturday at the Bauff Springs Hotel, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, of Mr Christopher Mackintosh, son of Mr Charles Mackintosh, of Calgary, Alberta, and Mrs Peter Ellis, of Pitlohead, East Sussex, and Lady Fiona Hare, daughter of the Earl of Listowel, of Hampshire, and Stephanie Countess of Listowel, of Toronto, Ontario. The Rev Donald E. Browne officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Viscount Ennismore, was attended by Jessica Mossie and Ann Lung. Mr William Aitken was best man.

A reception was held at the Bauff Springs Hotel and the honeymoon will be spent in the West Indies.

Mr M.C.G. Menzies and Miss S.L. Finnis.

The marriage took place on Saturday at St Mary the Virgin, Burslem, Staffordshire, of Mr Mark Menzies, younger son of Mr Michael Menzies, of Oyster Bay, New York, and Mrs Thomas W. Bullitt, of Oyster Bay, New York, and Miss Sarah Finnis, younger daughter of the late Mr Robert Finnis and of the Hon Mrs Raymond Seymour, of the Old Vicarage, Burslem, Staffordshire. The Rev A.D.R. Holmes officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her stepfather, Major Raymond Seymour, was attended by Lucinda and Henrietta Laves, Emily and Nicholas Butcher, Edward Beaumont, Emma Bonham, Laetitia Thompson, Oliver Bethell and Philippa Menzies. Mr Freddie Menzies was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent in France.

Mr P.A.F. Studd and Miss G.A.G. Neville.

The marriage took place on Saturday at St John the Baptist, Tisbury, East Sussex, of Mr Philip Studd, elder son of Sir Edward and Lady Studd, of Dancesy, Clavering, Essex, and Miss Georgina Neville, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Neville, of Townhouse, Tisbury. The Rev John Studd and the Rev Michael Insley officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Zofia and John Ferguson Lewis, Mrs Emma Walters, Miss Henrietta Neville and Miss Alexandra Studd. Mr Francis Hilton was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr R.W. Clark and Miss K.M. Storey.

The marriage took place on Saturday at St George's, Wrotham, Kent, of Mr Richard William Clark, son of the late Sir Arthur Clark and of Lady Clark, of Plaxton, Kent, and Miss Katherine Margaret Storey, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.D. R.N.R. and the late Mrs Storey, of Chandler's Ford, Hampshire. The Rev Tony Smith officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Sara Moloney, Miss Sarah Louthan and Miss Kate Louthan. Mr Timothy O'Grady was best man.

A reception was held at the Bull Hotel, Wrotham, and the honeymoon will be spent on the Isle of Arran.

Mr J.A. Burki and Miss T.A. Bore.

The marriage took place on Saturday, September 5, at St Mary's Church, Midhurst, between Mr Jeffrey Burki, son of Mr and Mrs A. Burki, of New York, and Miss Trudy Ann Bore, youngest daughter of Air Commodore and Mrs J.E. Bore, of Mill Farm, West Sussex.

Mr W.J.J. Crawshaw and Miss C.E.A. Bowman.

The marriage took place on Saturday, September 5, at the Parish Church of St Edmund and St Mary, Ingatstone, of Mr William Crawshaw, only son of Mr and Mrs Julian Crawshaw, of Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, and Miss Catherine Bowman, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Bowman, of Ingatstone House, Ingatstone, Canon E.F. Hudson officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Victoria Bowman, Chloe Turcan, Zephry and Charles Blair, Eleanor and Ned Barrie and Camilla and Katrina Barber. Captain Jonathan Shute was best man.

A reception was held at Ingatstone House and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Major A.P. De Ritter and Miss M.H.S. Nickerson.

The marriage took place on Saturday, September 5, at The Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, between Major Anthony De Ritter, The Life Guards, only son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel R.B. De Ritter and of Mrs R.B. De Ritter, of Merrow, Guildford, and Miss Henrietta Nickerson, younger daughter of the late Major George Nickerson, and of Mrs George Nickerson, of Court, Kintyre. The Rev Neville Thomas officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, was attended by Miss Caroline Longmire, Emily, Sally and Talbot, Lucy Goodhue, Flora Fitzalan Howard, Harry Millham, Angus Gill, David Walsh and Henry Erskine-Crum. Major James Ellery was best man.

A reception was held at The Den of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr A.B. de P. Johnson and Miss A.G.A. Mosty-Owen.

The marriage took place on Saturday, September 5, 1987, at the Church of St Michael and St Angela, West of London, of Mr and Mrs N.C.F. Johnson, eldest son of Mr Stanley Johnson and Miss Charlotte Johnson, and Miss Alexandra Mosty-Owen, only daughter of Mr and Mrs William Mosty-Owen. The Rev Tony Villiers officiated.

The bride was given in marriage by her father and was attended by Miss Rebecca Jensen and Miss Julia Johnson. Mr Leo Johnson was best man.

Mr C.C.H. Ricketts and Miss S. Ridley.

The marriage took place on Saturday, September 5, 1987, at Ruspur Church, Sussex, of Mr Charles Ricketts and Miss Susanna Ridley.

Mr R.W. Sator and Miss A. Hayes.

The marriage took place on Saturday, September 5, of Mr Robert William Sator, second son of Mr and Mrs N.C.F. Sator, of Middle Barn, Rimpington, Somerset, and Miss Alison Hayes, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs A. Hayes, of Highlands, Dorset.

Mr H.D. Thompson and Mrs C.A.P. Harrison.

The marriage took place on Saturday, September 5, at St Peter's Church, Grandborough, between Mr David Thompson, son of Mr and Mrs M.J. Thompson, of Prestige, and the late Captain Robert Thompson, and Mrs Carolyn Harrison, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Hall, of Shenton Hall, Nottingham.



Group Captain Leonard Cheshire 70 today

Birthdays today

Major Sir William Wrixon-Becher, 72; Professor Malcolm Bradbury, novelist, 55; Lord Charters of Amisfield, 74; Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, VC, OM, founder, Cheshire Homes and Family Support Services, 70; Miss Joan Cross, opera singer, 87; Sir Colin Crowe, diplomat, 74; Mr J. Paul Getty, oil philanthropist, 55; Mr Peter Gill, actor, 76; Miss M.G. Hampshire, former principal, Cheltenham Ladies' College, 69; Miss Dianne Hayter, director, Alcohol Concern, 38; Mr H.D. Hughes, former principal, Euston College, Oxford, 73; Mr Patrick Jenkin, (life peer), former MP, 61; Sir Douglas Lovelock, former chairman, Board of Customs and Excise, 64; Professor Sir Brian Pippard, physicist, 67; Sir Anthony Ouseley, former head of the school on October 23, Term will end on December 11 with the 121st annual Shakespeare play, *Titus Andronicus*. A reunion for Old Foresters who left between 1950 and 1960 will be held on October 20. Any Old Forester who has not received details of this event should contact the Wardens' secretary.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.B. Mason and Miss S.K. Tirvengadam.

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Mason, of London, SW6, and the daughter of Sir Harry and Lady Tirvengadam, of Floral, Mauritius.

Mr J.A. Allan and Miss M.E.J. Potter.

The engagement is announced between James, twin son of the late Mr Michael Allan and Mrs John Sparks, of Stoke D'Abernon, Surrey, and Marina, younger daughter of Captain and Mrs Keith Potter, of The British High Commission, Ottawa, Mr D.C. Austin.

Mr C.L. Zuch and Miss C.L. Zuch.

The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs C.E. Austin, of Newson, and Miss C.L. Zuch, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. Zuch, of Aldenham, Hertfordshire.

Mr A.L. Bennett and Miss E.J. Martin.

The engagement is announced between Anthony Leonard, son of Mr Adeline Bennett, of Colchester, Essex, and Eua Jeanette, daughter of Commander and Mrs Ronald W.E. Martin, of Guildford, Surrey.

Mr M.J. Cowper and Miss G.E. Campbell.

The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of Mr M.R. Cowper and Mrs M.J. Cowper, and Miss G.E. Campbell, daughter of Mr and Mrs James Campbell, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

Mr J.M.R. Foster and Miss F.J. Ames.

The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of Mr and Mrs M.D.E. Foster, of Bures, Suffolk, and Polly, elder daughter of Mr H.D. Ames, of Newnham, Norfolk, and Mrs S.M. Ames, of Grosvenor, Gwent.

Mr W. Georges and Miss R. David.

School news

Charterhouse
Oration Quarter at Charterhouse begins today. D.D. Michael is head of school and L.P. Islet is captain of football.

The third Sir Robert Birkley Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Mr Kenneth Rose on October 3. The founder's day dinner in London will be on Wednesday, December 9. Even is from October 24 until November 1 and the quarter ends on December 9.

Cheltenham College
Term begins today at Cheltenham College and ends on Friday, December 11. The Remembrance Sunday service will be held by the Rev. R. Michael Beetham. Open day is on September 19, and Old Cheltonian day on September 26. The Mason Freeman Technology Centre will be opened by Lord Chilver. The rackets court will be open for play this term and the official reopening will be in Lent term. The 16th scholarship examination will be held on November 16 and 17. There will be a carol service open to everyone on Christmas Eve at 5 pm.

Forest School
Michaelmas Term commences today at Forest School. The Old Foresters' head of mathematics, Dr J. Selmes as head of geography and Mr D. Smith as head of drama. The Barroch, the new dining hall, will be opened by Lord Forte on Monday, September 28. The Old Cheltonian dinner will be held in the Barroch on Saturday, October 24.

Reed's School
Autumn Term at Reed's School begins on Tuesday, September 8. Guy Pakenham is captain of school and last week, Mr J. Hignett is head of mathematics. The annual dinner will be held in the Grocers' Hall on Wednesday, November 25, the Commemoration service to mark the 20th anniversary of the founder, Andrew Reed, at St Mary's, Bow on Friday, November 27, and the carol service will be held in Guildford Cathedral on Sunday, December 13. Term ends on Wednesday, December 16.

Repton School
Michaelmas Term at Repton Michaelmas Term today. James Bassett (Orchard) is head prefect and Robin Williamson (Priory) is captain of football. Old Reptonian day is on Saturday, November 25. There will be a performance of *Carmina Burana* in Pears School on November 21 and Abbots Bromley on November 22. Term ends on December 11.

St Edward's School, Oxford
Michaelmas Term today at St Edward's School, Oxford, with Brendan Dawson as head of school. Mr J.D. Leach has left to become Headmaster of Brighton College and is succeeded by Mr R.M.A. Hughes. The assembly on Monday, September 14, will be a performance of *Macbeth* by Mr M.J. Hiner. Mr M.D. Persinger has retired as Housemaster of Cowell's and is succeeded by Mr R.M.A. Hughes. The assembly on Monday, September 14, will be a performance of *Macbeth* by Mr M.J. Hiner. Mr M.D. Persinger has retired as Housemaster of Cowell's and is succeeded by Mr R.M.A. Hughes.

St Peter's School, York
Michaelmas Term today at St Peter's School, York, today with a total of 638 boys and 120 girls in the senior school and St Oliver's. The head of school is Nigel Muirhead. There will be a performance of *Macbeth* on December 3 and 4. Term ends after the carol service in the Minster on December 18.

Sutton Valence School
Autumn Term at Sutton Valence School begins today. Michaelmas Term today. Half term runs from Saturday, October 24, to Sunday, November 1. Mr J.C.P. Bailey joins us as head of mathematics and Mr J.H. Hewitt as head of art. Mr L.S. Hendry becomes Housemaster of St Margaret's and Mr D. Richard of Bennett.

Tatton School
Michaelmas Term today. Mr A.J. Rambridge succeeds Mr A.R. Duff as Housemaster of School House. J.M. Taylor is senior chapel prefect and R.M.S. Jackson is junior chapel prefect. The school play, a joint production with Eborac School, is *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* by Bertolt Brecht and will be performed from October 21 to

King's School, Rochester
Michaelmas Term at King's School, Rochester, begins today. Mr R.J. Gosden has become Housemaster of St Margaret's House. Major H.A. Caulfield has become Assistant Bursar. G. Perilleux will be head of school and C. Sethi deputy head of school.

Malvern College
Autumn Term at Malvern College begins today. Mr A.J. Rambridge succeeds Mr A.R. Duff as Housemaster of School House. J.M. Taylor is senior chapel prefect and R.M.S. Jackson is junior chapel prefect. The school play, a joint production with Eborac School, is *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* by Bertolt Brecht and will be performed from October 21 to

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THE ARTS

Stylistic squeeze

"Sambos" were in and out on BBC 1 yesterday. In *The Happy Valley*, Ross Devens' savage yet most delicately realized film about the Errol murder in wartime Kenya, the sadistic monster John Carberry addressed a servant with typical brutishness: "As for you, Sambo..." In the first episode of his version of *Vanity Fair*, however, Alexander Baron gave us the Sedleys' black servant without his name of "Sambo" (and made the also unfortunately named Miss Swartz of St Kitts anonymous).

No doubt the marked attention of style is necessary to keep the attention of

TELEVISION

any television audience, let alone a young one, for 16 weeks (*Thackeray* gave his original readers 20 episodes). Also, more will now read the book. But there is a humbling sorrow about the public lessening of the great, be it *Thackeray* or *Daley Thompson*. Other economies apart, so much wit was gone with just the absence of the ironising narrator as "manager of the performance". Perhaps the plot laid soapsily bare will pull through, supported by the quality in depth of British actors, props and costumes (not to say the *Radio Times* exegesis of the author's "yuppies"), leaving us untroubled by the question whether it was in fact as a novelist that Thackeray was great.

The brilliance of *The Happy Valley*, however, was in its limitation of vision, so skilfully portraying (to the confusion no doubt of some) the pubescently innocent incomplete understanding of the white mistress, by Janina Carberry, who yet was exclusively in the know about the truth of the case and the victim of the cruellest perversion by her father. Wisely, Janina's use of Swahili was preserved (with subtitles), thus confirming her separatism and ensuring that the film — the odd posed, if beautiful, zoological shot apart — was in Africa more than *Out of Africa*.

Andrew Hislop

A lifelong reckless fight

Edith Sitwell, even now rated more as an eccentric than a poet, was born 100 years ago today: Geoffrey Elborn suggests the time has come for appreciative reassessment



Edith Sitwell: *The Times* was not afraid to admit frankly it had "failed to spot a winner"

When Edith Sitwell and her brothers presented *Facade* in 1923, *The Times* declared they were "apostles of epigram" and, offering an apology in 1962, frankly noted that it had "failed to spot a winner". In conclusion this paper stated that "on very rare occasions, and when the stature of a great artist is at stake, *The Times* is not afraid to eat its words". But even the apology was reserved, with "artist" chosen to avoid the accolade of "great poet".

In this year of her centenary, Edith Sitwell is celebrated partly as an eccentric, with an almost secondary acknowledgement that she was also a poet. The best of her work should have by now settled in the annals of literature, but has not because her fame as a remarkably individual personality persistently blocks the view to her poetry and because the least interesting areas of it have been over-exposed. If Liszt the virtuoso pianist stands in the way of Liszt the innovative composer as regards recognition, and he died in the year before Edith Sitwell's birth, how hard it is to hope that her eccentricity ought to be regarded as irrelevant in any consideration of her poetic output.

Always deeply insecure, Edith Sitwell was over-defensive of her reputation and consequently the worst advocate of her own work. Appreciation of it was hampered by publicity from the rather foolish feuds she fought with critics such as F.R. Leavis. The battles were amusing and should not have mattered, except that, in the case of Leavis, she faced an extremely influential opponent. His pronouncement about Edith Sitwell "belonging to the history of poetry rather than of literature" is unjust and ill-considered, but damnably memorable.

Of course Sitwell has always had her admirers, and influential critical notice from such stalwarts as C.M. Bowra and Cyril Connolly came during her lifetime. They were personal friends, unable to temper their views without a

degree of sycophancy, and their extravagant praise was ultimately damaging. Connolly's review of the *Collected Poems* in 1957 concluded that, in comparison with the poems of Yeats, Eliot and Auden, "it will be found that hers have

the purest poetical content of them all. The honey may sometimes fail, the comb never." Doubtless well meant, but the comparisons are awkward and seem faintly patronizing. Connolly privately believed

that Edith Sitwell's finest poetry belonged to the period of the 1920s, and rightly cited her poem *The Sleeping Beauty* (1924) as outstanding. But, afraid of causing offence, he was obliged to agree publicly with the poet's view that her

work written during the Second World War was the most enduring. With this belief in mind, Edith Sitwell omitted from her *Collected Poems* early work which 60 years later has a direct and delicate appeal, lacking in the rich and overwrought lines she included in bulk for posterity. Certain late poems do deserve to survive, but Sitwell is neglected because the focus of attention has been misguidedly directed on her least interesting poetry, the quality of which cannot support the claims made for it.

It was perhaps not a coincidence that, as an old woman, Edith Sitwell largely rejected her early work while simultaneously feeling compelled to create a legend around the suffering of her childhood and to disown her parents.

As the first and unloved child of a broken aristocratic marriage, she was left to explore the dark world created by relations who seemed remote, and, through being constantly shifted from one lonely country house to the next, she filled her imagination with impressions of these atmospheric houses, benevolent servants, and gardens to dispel her acute loneliness.

As an adult, she poetically transmuted these recollections through her strange vision to re-create an evocative and hauntingly memorable fairy-tale world. This exploration of a lost Eden first found expression in *Facade* but was more intensely developed from the same poetic mould in *Bucolic Comedies*, *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Troy Park*, all published between 1922 and 1925.

These represent the best of Edith Sitwell's poetry, written with a highly individual use of language still unsurpassed for its peculiar, inimitable artifice.

Far from being trivial, these early poems by one "a little outside life" should now find a greater acceptance in an era more concerned with Sitwell's concepts than her own age's ear for the sound of her words. It is a pity that her own age's ear for the sound of her words was so earnestly but recklessly fought.

Relations of wonderment

As we have been told ad nauseam, the family has a lot to answer for. I have always thought this accusation a little like the complaint that breathing has a lot to answer for — such as infectious illnesses, the smoking habit or the maintenance in malevolent health of all the people we can do without. Really it is up to the complainer in both cases to suggest a workable and a better alternative. This is my prejudice and, as you might expect, I found it amply reinforced in the first of a lovely new series, *Relative*

RADIO

Values (Radio 4, Tuesdays, repeating Wednesdays).

Formerly a doctor, now a writer and broadcaster, Michael O'Donnell practices the fly-on-the-wall technique with four different families, though the core of each programme is the bits of candid interview with individual members amplified by O'Donnell's own commentary. The Yorkshire Graysons were the first, headed by their formidable but endearing granny, 84-year-old Laura. She confessed early on that "he was a very boring man, my husband" — a discovery she had made within two weeks of her wedding, but she held on until her two sons, Peter and Barry, were grown up before she parted company.

Things did not go exactly smoothly for the boys. Peter suddenly knew his marriage was tottering when one of his kids offered to push him off a quayside (the tide was out) and his wife made no move to stop it. Then he fell in love with his new sister-in-law, provoking in Barry serious thoughts of murder. Both personalities came adrift, both remarried and were eventually reconciled, while Laura remained staunch throughout, sharing house for seven years with Barry, taking in his children every weekend. One of her daughters-in-law claimed she had only married to get such a wonderful mother-in-law. There were boos and cries of "Creep!" from the assembled family.

Rough and tumble in an acute form was the background of *A Memory Longer Than Death* (Radio 4, Saturday, repeating this afternoon). There was a difference to John Naismith's *Saturday Night Theatre* thriller in that former paras Bill Cassidy and his friend Leroy were both black — although, if accent and the occasional explicit reference in the dialogue had not told me that, I might not have guessed: it did not seem to matter in the action. The story was a gripping one — both men while in Belfast had fallen foul of a brutal and vengeful Provo, now out to get them — but first you had to grasp it and this was not always easy. A throw-away style of writing and performance — admirable in other ways — plus patches of sheer inaudibility made this in quite the wrong sense a hard act to follow.

It is certainly as well to realize that something very like *glasnost* has been played out in Russia before. As *The Two Thawns* (Radio 3, last night) reminded us, after Khrushchev's revelations of the 1950s there followed a period of liberalization no less marked than what is happening today. Then the ebullient Nikita fell from grace and under Brezhnev the shutters came down again. Julian Crafly drew the many parallels between then and now, but the differences he showed us are many and important too. Khrushchev took the lid off the pot of liberalization as it were by accident; Gorbachev has done it knowingly, as a matter of policy, even of necessity.

But, as we were warned, that is no guarantee of continuation. Because openness is now the party line, everyone is for it and this conceals the very real strength of the opposition. And then the ethic born of years of repression and indoctrination has enormous staying-power. The censor's influence may wane, but everyone's internal censor does the job instead. Of course, the Soviet Union has no monopoly on that.

David Wade

Set delights

THEATRE

The Innocent Mistress

Playhouse, Derby

Faced with a resurrected play by a forgotten woman dramatist, her works unperformed since the reign of Queen Anne and her name omitted from common books of reference, the first thought is: does this Mrs Mary Pix truly exist? Has she not rather been invented by Annie Castledine, the new artistic director of the Playhouse, to start her first season with a fine feminist swing?

Some deeper research reveals that we are not after all the victims of an elaborate prank. The "fat female Author", as a satire of the time described her, was born in the year of the Great Fire. Her first play was a blank-verse tragedy, *Ibrahim the Thirteenth Emperor of the Turks*, and too late she discovered she should have written "*Ibrahim the Twelfth*". Of her works Edmund Gosse observed: "Her tragedies are intolerable", but fortunately she avoids verse, blank or otherwise, in this comedy of courtship and misadventure, the hit of 1697.

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This is a more decorative production than the play's worth merits — though without the elegance, lights in paper boats and harpsichord continuo the play could not have been steered into performance at all.

Jeremy Kingston

SOUTH BANK FESTIVAL

Enactments

Elizabeth Hall

either through left-wing sympathies or Jewishness (or both), to flee the Nazi threat in the 1930s. The banishment exposed Wolpe to intellectual freedom, but he did not swallow unquestioningly. In the formidable entanglements of *Enactments* tradition is as important as newness, as the titles of the five movements suggest, though Wolpe also harnesses 12-note techniques and uses some fearfully complex textures, comparable to those found in Boulez's Second Piano Sonata. But here tradition and radicalism each negate, as it were, the

Wolpe was one of that group of composers, which also counted Schoenberg, Zemlinsky, Weill and Eisler among its number, forced,

Music Projects

Elizabeth Hall

In Varèse's seminal *Ionization* (1931) for 13 percussionists the score reasonably enough specifies high, middle or low varieties for those instruments ruled by size rather than scales. Harrison Birtwistle thought it might be interesting if Richard Bensusan and Music Projects/London played the piece twice, once properly and once with Varèse's instructions reversed, the lower siren sounding when the higher one is supposed to, and so on.

We thus heard a different piece of music, glimpsing the work as through a glass darkly, since the general tessitura was lower, the articulation marginally less brutally defined. What was the point?

Though I disagree with Birtwistle's assertion that the only way to bring alive a work as distant as Machaut's *Hoquetus David* is to give



Simon Holt: drew short straw

something of the present century to it, in the course of his series so far we have heard some fascinating fantasies upon the theme.

Simon Holt chose to transcribe it fairly straightforwardly, though, having drawn the short straw and been limited to percussion instruments, he more than anybody ought perhaps to have taken his brief with a pinch of salt. As it was, his use

of tubular bells as predominant instrument (alongside crotales and vibraphones) backfired, their sheer resonance compromising the crispness of Machaut's rhythmically complex, voice exchanges.

Philip Grange's *Preludes and Muses* for oboe, clarinet, piano and three percussionists had a dance section of engaging vigour and fluency, even though the prelude rather convolutedly presented and married contrasting types of material for the two (disgracefully uncredited) woodwind soloists.

The most powerful piece of the evening was Nono's *Con Luigi Dallapiccola* (1979), a memorial for one man given here in memory of another, Morton Feldman. Its beautifully crafted, predominantly metallic sounds hung sorrowfully, if aromatically, in the air in a performance of marvelously sustained intensity.

S.P.

Youthful awareness

PROMENADE CONCERTS

BBCSO/Atherton

Albert Hall/Radio 3

At the centre of David Atherton's programme with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Colin Carr was a soloist much in advance of his years for the mental perspective and emotional depth of Elgar's Cello Concerto. Here was no middle-aged music from an older generation but a young man's awareness of beauty and compassion, and the need to express that no less forcefully than the composer felt it when he wrote it.

Technique was at the service of imagination in conveying the way Elgar let his musical ideas make their own mould instead of making them conform to one. The absolute



Atherton: buoyant rhythms

stiffness of the audience as the slow movement gently sought its resolution was tribute to a distinguished performance, and, if there was perhaps still more to illuminate in the concerto's finale, the music's sense of purpose was fulfilled.

The orchestral playing here was of a comparable quality after the physical energy and often densely percussive textures of a Swedish ballet suite, Blomdahl's *Sjöbjörns*. Another such work from the English repertoire predated the second part of the concert in the form of Holst's short ballet that begins his comic opera *The Perfect Fool* — music of such genial clarity as always to prompt regret that there is not more of it for practicable dance purposes.

The rhythmic buoyancy the conductor generated here also infected much of the opening movement of the Fifth Symphony by Sibelius, to the music's considerable advantage. It reached to the warmth that is readily kindled beneath the apparently granite surface. After the diverting study in making a little go a long way that comprises the central movement, the suspenseful tension of the finale was grandly sustained between noble brass and sweeping string-playing of controlled fervour.

Noël Goodwin

LSO/Thomas

Albert Hall/Radio 3

could not demonstrate how Tchaikovsky used key-relations to tie the broader musical structure together, as the reality of the court scenes twice dissolves into lakeside illusion. But we did hear the act in its original sequence, particularly with the *Pas de six* and the extra Russian Dance.

A different kind of ballroom dancing was recalled at the start of the programme with six precursors of the waltz in Mozart's German Dances, K509. This group was written for a social occasion among the Prague nobility, Mozart's hosts thinking it fun to invite

him early and make him earn his supper by writing them on the spot. The wonder is not that they are slight, but that they could sound so polished as here.

Stravinsky's *Symphony in Three Movements* could rely on its amazing synthesis of disparate elements, and contrasted effectively with the music of salon and theatre. The work brings into focus some kind of balance between the Apollonian and Dionysian elements of his personality. This performance was in need of crisper instrumental attack to generate the rhythmic impetus, but the steady tempo and range of instrumental colour made it compelling.

N.G.

Capturing the essential flavours

DANCE

Scottish Ballet

Town Hall, Falkirk

Every year, to reach communities without full-sized theatres, Scottish Ballet divides into two groups to tour the Highlands and Lowlands. On Saturday night one troupe was performing at Fort William while I watched the other in the auditorium of Falkirk Town Hall.

Their programme was well chosen to show different aspects of classical ballet. It opened with *Les Sylphides*, the most famous 20th-century example of romantic ballet. The woman's mazurka was omitted, presumably because the small stages cannot do it justice, and there were only eight attendant sylphs, but for all that they caught more of the ballet's essential spirit than some full-scale productions.

It was dark in front of a plain blue

backcloth, but how little the décor was missed is demonstrated by the fact that we were into the finale before I became aware of its absence. And nobody could complain at having the Chopin music played for once as written, by a solo pianist.

The other two ballets were given to recorded music. *Vesperi* is one of the best modern examples of a classical bravura ballet, with imaginative choreography by André Prokoviev to Verdi's music, neatly introducing

some touches of humour among its virtuoso dances. Norman McDowell's decor, evoking a 19th-century opera-house, drew applause and the company lived up to its sparkling glamour.

Between these two pure dance ballets came Peter Darrell's *The Prisoners*, which at its creation 30 years ago was the making of the newly-formed Western Theatre Ballet which grew into the present Scottish Ballet. Because most of his work has been done outside London, Darrell has never had the recognition he deserves as the most versatile and consistent of British dramatic choreographers since Cranko.

This revival shows him at his best, combining dramatic clarity with psychological subtlety in its story of

how an escaped convict puts himself into a different kind of imprisonment through murderous sexual desire. Elaine McDonald as the lecherous and dominant anti-heroine leads a strong case.

Each work, of its kind, stands comparison with the best that any other British company could offer. The programme shows the rightness of Scottish Ballet's policies over the years. The company still awaits the choice of a new artistic director, but it now has a new chairman (Peregrine Moncreiffe), and I am assured by the Director of the Scottish Arts Council, the full backing of that organization: it deserves no less.

John Percival

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MONDAY PAGE

Good, bad, Bette

Undaunted by old age, Bette Davis has just finished her hundredth film — and a book containing an open letter to the daughter who attacked her in print. Graham Fuller met her in New York

At 79, Bette Davis has a gaunt, angular elegance. She dresses in actressy jet-black, chinks her pearls, rings and bracelets with every gesture, and chain-smokes. Her smile is brief and her handshake tight. The no-nonsense manner, the *grande dame* poise, the pulsing, imperious eyes and the sonorous Yankee accent — capable of throaty, cauterizing contempt when she dislikes a question — are not diminished by age.

Nor, apparently, is her energy. "I'm working very hard at finding a good script somewhere," she says. "There aren't many around these days, but I've seen two or three plays here in New York that might work out. So we'll find one some day."

En route to London to promote her new autobiography, *This 'n That*, she had flown in from the West Coast before attending the Deauville Film Festival's tribute to Hollywood's centenary. She celebrates a centenary of her own in October, with the release in the United States of Lindsay Anderson's *The Whales of August* — her hundredth film, in which she co-stars with nonagenarian Lillian Gish, and probably her best since *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?* in 1962.

At Deauville, she will be presented with the highest French civilian award, the *Légion d'Honneur*. For Davis, it is fresh icing on an

'I will never recover from BD's book as I have from the stroke'

extraordinary screen career encompassing many controversial struggles to win better roles for herself. In the late 1930s and early 1940s, these roles identified her as one of the American cinema's most potent icons, straddling vulnerable or capricious girls, emancipated, pre-feminist professionals and bitch goddesses, whose unhappiness or malice was invariably the result of romantic disappointment.

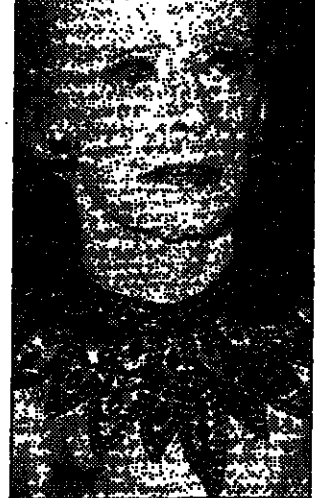
The backdrop to that career has been a tough, traumatic, private life — her second marriage ended in widow-



hood, the other three in divorce — essentially as a single parent to her daughter, BD (now Barbara Davis Hyman), and adopted children, Michael and Margot. Lately, she has fought cancer and the stroke that followed her mastectomy in June 1983. Now fully recovered, she makes no special claims for personal resilience, and credits her survival to the encouragement given by her former secretary, Kathryn Sermak.

"I don't think I had a lot of inner strength, and I wouldn't say that inner strength gets you well," she says. "You have to work enormously hard to get your body back, and you need someone to encourage you. I was up and down — sometimes discouraged, sometimes hopeful. My terror, of course, was that I'd never work again. But Kathryn sat there in the hospital with me and she's the reason I'm alive today."

The saddest of the book's chapters is her open letter to BD. This is a riposte to her daughter's 1985 book, *My Mother's Keeper*, a confessional which — no matter what truths it



No nonsense: Bette Davis as she is now and (top) in *The Anniversary*, 1967

reveals — seemed like a sanctimonious, crucially misguided attack. Davis writes: "I will never recover as completely from BD's book as I have from the stroke," but is otherwise loath to discuss it at length. "My book is nothing to do with her book," is all she'll say. "Mine was finished long before hers ever came out."

On being a mother-in-law — a role she's played since 1964 when the then 16-year-old BD married Jeremy Hyman — she is more loquacious. "Leave the children alone, make short visits," is her advice to prospective in-laws. "If it's a daughter that's marrying, you don't gain a son, you lose a daughter."

"I think mothers cry at weddings because they believe there will seldom be a day as good as this again. Mothers know from their own marriages what their children have ahead of them."

English husbands are totally different to American husbands, she says. "In England, a woman's role is just to be a woman, much more so

than in this country. I always felt Englishmen were pretty macho with their wives and that Englishwomen have learned to accept it. Part of it I agree with — I think American men aren't demanding enough."

Asked to comment on the faults of American husbands, she says, "Come to my house and we'll sit in front of the fire for three days and discuss it". Her own marriages she prefers to consign to the past, but — because she is ultimately a modest woman, whose grand manner can be deceptive — she doesn't falsely elevate her single status.

"I don't think it's anything to be extraordinarily happy about. It would have been fine if a marriage had worked out. I envied people who could construct a good, long marriage. I really did. But there's no question about it, fame was in my way. A woman's fame doesn't make it easy for a man."

Does she think of herself as a feminist? "I certainly do. I've been a feminist from the day I was born, if you mean by that that I'm a woman. Or do you mean by 'feminist' going out and stamping up and down with flags? The biggest rights that need improving for women are equal pay for equal work. That I violently believe in."

She now believes in financial independence in marriage, too. "I never had a marital contract — I didn't believe in them back then — but I wish I had. I did present one man who wanted to marry me with the fact that there would have to be a marital contract, and he walked. He just left, so the indication was that he wanted to marry me for my money."

In *The Whales of August*, Bette Davis plays Libby, the blind, cantankerous sister of Lillian Gish's gently optimistic Sarah; the two elderly widows live on the Maine island where they have spent 60 summers. Tired of living, Libby spitefully resists Sarah's wish to install a picture window overlooking the ocean, and tries to lure her to her death. It is a subtle, insidious performance with a redeeming grace at the end.

"I suppose I'm still learning as an actress," Davis ponders. "I've been considered by other people to be a

'I envied people who could construct a good, long marriage'

very fine actress, and for that I'm grateful. But I've never been wildly fond of seeing myself. I'm my own worst critic. I certainly don't roam around all day thinking how wonderful I am."

Among modern actresses, she admires Sissy Spacek and Debra Winger. "There aren't scripts today like I had, so the actresses today aren't being given half the chance the actresses back then had. We played millions of parts, so we had a chance to learn. I was very, very fortunate."

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Fashion at your fingertips

High Street chains and designer shops may have changed, but the real revolution has been taking place in the wings

Tucked away in an elegant drawing room in Holland Park, west London, a store of 150,000 or more outfits has been amassed in every permutation of colour, fabric and size available. One of them will fit you to the millimetre.

There are, however, no dress rails crowded round the sofa. Instead, the fashion consultancy opened by Florence Viscountess Hardinge has just switched on its computer technology. At the touch of a button you can organize your wardrobe from a choice of clothes in your size, available now in designer shops and showrooms.

Fill in a simple questionnaire, and Florence Hardinge's databank will happily print out 20 little black dresses for you to dither over. Or it will find in a few seconds the only one in London with the off-the-shoulder satin swathe you fancy that is under £200.

The printout is backed up by videos, photographs and fabric swatches of complete designer collections; make your choice and a consultant arranges for the chosen outfit to be put on one side for you. Some shops and designers will deliver clothes ordered.

The smartest thing about Lady Hardinge's electronic brainchild, however, is its human element. Every customer gets up to six personal consultations a year. It is on her good taste that the success of her technology depends.

Florence Hardinge understands better than most the difficulties facing any woman whose lifestyle requires her to look stylish and yet allows her no time to choose clothes. An early career in banking and a fast-paced social life put impossible pressures on her own wardrobe.

One of the Oppenheims, the German banking family, Florence was brought up in Paris. Her husband, Lord Hardinge, head of Orion Royal Bank, died in 1984, only two years after they married, leaving her with a daughter, Georgia.

While she fitted her career in with his there was never enough time to shop. "Nick's secretary would send me a slip of paper each week listing our engagements. It would have helped if she had noted



Lady Hardinge: "An average person who's been through a lot"

alongside each date what I should wear."

It was late last year that Florence was struck by the idea of matching new technology to fashion. With the encouragement of friends, with the co-operation of international designers (she did the rounds of Milan and Paris as well as London) and using her financial expertise, Lady Hardinge installed specially programmed computers and a young team of professionals in her own house to launch her consultancy.

For an annual fee of £125 FHFC members have constant access to information by telephone. A newsletter and invitations to fashion shows are planned. A few designer accessories (like cashmere scarves bound in suede) have been rounded up. A portable computer link-up is used for consultations at a member's own office or home.

"It would be difficult to give other people advice if you were beautiful and appeared to have no problems," Lady Hardinge says. "But I know I am an average person who's been through a lot. I

have put on 20 kilos and lost them. My hips are a bit wide and I have learnt to disguise that problem."

She is not alone, however, in applying computers to fashion. They are also the basis for London Clothesline, a fashion service targeted at bargain-hunters which was set up by Libby Crew at the end of last year. With a background in fashion-buying (for the John Lewis Partnership), a couple of Amstrad computers, and a team of scouts, Libby Crew scours boutiques and fashion warehouses in and around London for cut-price fashion. "Sales are on all year round, somewhere," she says.

For £35 a year, Clothesline subscribers, having completed a questionnaire, receive regular print-outs listing where the reduced lines are.

Liz Smith

London Clothesline (01-291 4378/4093/3049) has just opened an office at 19 South Molton Street, W1V 1AQ (01-493 6227). For further information about the Florence Hardinge Fashion Consultancy, call 01-602 8623.

TOMORROW



By dressing the top film stars Marit Allen (above) is influencing fashion in the high street



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The Royal Hospital and Home for Incurables

PATRONS HM THE QUEEN AND HM THE QUEEN MOTHER

TALKBACK

More than a wave

in London and the regions, but it is also a strong lobby, bringing to the attention of party leaders, the Press and the media, the value of bringing women into important posts in political and public life.

It will, for instance, be holding its annual Press and Media Awards ceremony in

London in mid-November, where articles and documentaries concerning women and politics are judged for their accuracy and informative character. This process alone endeavours to set the national tone for women in politics.

From Michael Stuart Green, *Lecturer in Interior Design, Edinburgh College of Art, Heriot-Watt University*

Josephine Fairley's article "Designing Women" (August 19) misrepresents both interior design and interior design education. What she describes are not interior design courses at all — at least, not in a sense acceptable to art colleges, polytechnics and universities, where it takes three or four years to attain an honours degree in the subject.

The term interior design is

today understood to signify the application of a wide range of studies to an unlimited range of internal environments. Those studies include, *inter alia*, architectural design, planning, building re-use, lighting design, psychology, sociology, graphics and furniture design welded together by aesthetic sensitivity and creative vision. Between them, Britain's interior design degree courses offer around 30 different subsidiary subjects, of which each course includes at least a dozen.

On graduation, students are most commonly absorbed by architectural or multi-disciplinary design practices — and at salaries considerably in excess of £4,000! Interior design should not be confused with interior decoration, nor interior designers with those people who tart up lounges,

who complain about a lack of romance in their lives. You will notice that in most Irish love songs the woman is safely somewhere else and can be pined for from afar. It is true that in "I'll Take You Home Again Kathleen", the lady is right beside the man, giving him a bit of stick for bringing her away from the Emerald Isle, but it's all a bit fanciful. A more realistic situation would be that instead of promising to land her safe and sound where the fields are fresh and green, he would tell her to stop her blathering and put on some rashers to fry.

Most of today's Kathleenes, given the choice, would rather be in Australia or Canada able to afford their own little car and fitted kitchen.

I expect that even now Roxanna Burns is wallowing in unaccustomed attention. She may be dancing under the stars having Greek love songs whispered in her ear, listening delightedly as her eyes, her hands and hair are compared to Helen of Troy — a whole range of experiences that are

Irish men do not get a good press from their women folk,

than in this country. I always felt Englishmen were pretty macho with their wives and that Englishwomen have learned to accept it. Part of it I agree with — I think American men aren't demanding enough."

Asked to comment on the faults of American husbands, she says, "Come to my house and we'll sit in front of the fire for three days and discuss it". Her own marriages she prefers to consign to the past, but — because she is ultimately a modest woman, whose grand manner can be deceptive — she doesn't falsely elevate her single status.

"I don't think it's anything to be extraordinarily happy about. It would have been fine if a marriage had worked out. I envied people who could construct a good, long marriage. I really did. But there's no question about it, fame was in my way. A woman's fame doesn't make it easy for a man."

Does she think of herself as a feminist? "I certainly do. I've been a feminist from the day I was born, if you mean by that that I'm a woman. Or do you mean by 'feminist' going out and stamping up and down with flags? The biggest rights that need improving for women are equal pay for equal work. That I violently believe in."

She now believes in financial independence in marriage, too. "I never had a marital contract — I didn't believe in them back then — but I wish I had. I did present one man who wanted to marry me with the fact that there would have to be a marital contract, and he walked. He just left, so the indication was that he wanted to marry me for my money."

In *The Whales of August*, Bette Davis plays Libby, the blind, cantankerous sister of Lillian Gish's gently optimistic Sarah; the two elderly widows live on the Maine island where they have spent 60 summers. Tired of living, Libby spitefully resists Sarah's wish to install a picture window overlooking the ocean, and tries to lure her to her death. It is a subtle, insidious performance with a redeeming grace at the end.

"I suppose I'm still learning as an actress," Davis ponders. "I've been considered by other people to be a

very fine actress, and for that I'm grateful. But I've never been wildly fond of seeing myself. I'm my own worst critic. I certainly don't roam around all day thinking how wonderful I am."

Among modern actresses, she admires Sissy Spacek and Debra Winger. "There aren't scripts today like I had, so the actresses today aren't being given half the chance the actresses back then had. We played millions of parts, so we had a chance to learn. I was very, very fortunate."

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*A supplement is payable for single room accommodation

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 7 1987

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

(Change on week)
 FT 30 Share
 1782.1 (+22.3)
 FT-SE 100
 2274.9 (+25.2)
 Bargains
 34432 (28380)
 USM (Datastream)
 209.85 (+0.16)

THE POUND

(Change on week)
 US dollar
 1.6530 (+0.0225)
 W German mark
 2.9680 (+0.0111)
 Trade-weighted
 73.0 (+0.5)

US NOTEBOOK

The dollar slumps as Greenspan sits it out

From Maxwell Newton
New York

A key element was missing from the financial markets in New York on Friday: Federal funds failed to match the rise in the prime rate and the discount rate and closed virtually unchanged at just above 6% per cent.

Unless funds go substantially above 7 per cent when the New York markets reopen tomorrow after the Labour Day holiday, it is likely there will be another sharp bear move on the dollar.

Under the authority of the Federal Open Market Committee, Dr Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, currently has the right to raise funds to 8 per cent.

On Friday, market participants evaluated the rise in the discount rate in the light of Fed policy actions that day.

As the Fed made no move to do customer or system repossessions, it was given the benefit of the doubt, in that it was accepted that there should be some further time for evaluation of the evolution of the funds rate to indicate how truly serious the Fed is about inflation and the dollar.

Dr Greenspan's decision to temporize while the dollar has been under attack, at first led to widespread scepticism about his true strength.

But while he sat on the fence, the bond market fell apart and the 30-year bond yield jumped to almost 9% per cent on Friday, from under 9 per cent two weeks previously.

This policy at least had the virtue of bringing home to an exceedingly complacent stock market that there are very high costs and very high risks involved in the policy of "benign neglect" of the US balance of payments prices. There was a very sharp fall on Friday in stock index futures, indicating the emergence of a very bearish view in the futures markets on the outlook for stocks.

Dr Greenspan may also have judged that the Japanese would be very willing and able to sustain another appreciation of the yen as indicated by:

- The very slow decline in the Japanese current account surplus;
- The substantial cost advantages that have been gained by Japanese manufacturers on their material costs due to the strong yen;
- The evidence of improving economic activity and profits in Japan;
- Japanese fear of US protectionist laws, something that would lead them to head over to co-operate in moves that might help forestall the dreaded protectionist threat from an increasingly isolationist US Congress.

So from Dr Greenspan's view, temporizing had several advantages. However, it was not a policy that could meet the disastrous results of the disinflation about US trade prospects raised by the June quarter real current account and trade deficit numbers.

These indicated no improvement of any significance in the real trade balance during the second quarter, thus undermining the optimism (and the Fed's argument that the real trade deficit was continuing to improve and that "in time" this would be reflected in the nominal deficit).

Already there are authoritative New York forecasts that the July trade deficit to be released next Friday could go to \$17 billion.

City-Edged	24	USM Prices	24
Analysis	24	Int. Tr. & Ex.	24
Results	24	Equity View	25
Money Moves	24	City Diary	25
Foreign Exchange	24	City News	25
Third Market	24	Share Prices	27

Dollar tops BIS agenda

Rates realignment will be reviewed

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

Central bankers meeting at the Bank for International Settlements in Basel, Switzerland, today will review the need for a further realignment of exchange rates following the recent weakness of the dollar.

In the first of a series of international meetings leading to the annual Monetary Fund and World Bank at the end of the month, the bankers will also re-examine the options for strengthening the present pattern of exchange rates, including further increases in interest rates in the US and a reduction in Japanese and German rates.

Following the ½ point increase to 6 per cent in the US discount rate on Friday, the dollar is expected to start the week on a quiet note in foreign exchange markets with US exchanges closed for Labour Day. But the expectation in London is that a further increase may be needed unless central banks are prepared to move their trading band for the US currency lower.

The next US trade figures

due on Friday are seen as a crucial indicator. Market traders are expecting a deficit of \$14-15 billion (£8.48-£9.09 billion), slightly better than the very poor figure for June of \$15.7 billion which was the trigger for renewed selling of the US currency.

The BIS meeting will be the first to be attended by Dr Alan Greenspan, the new chairman of the US Federal Reserve Bank, who will be holding bilateral meetings with Herr Karl Otto Poehl, the president of the West German Bundesbank, and with Mr Satoshi Sumita, the governor of the Bank of Japan.

The increase in the US discount rate is expected to put the focus back on measures to stimulate the economies of the two countries in trade surplus, Germany and Japan.

The Basel meeting will also be the occasion for an initial discussion of plans to strengthen the European Monetary System which will be considered further at the informal meeting of EEC finance min-

isters due to take place in Denmark next weekend.

The idea is that central banks of the member countries should intervene to support weak currencies and restrain strong ones before the exchange rates reach their permitted limits.

Officials argue that liberalization of capital markets has produced increased turbulence in foreign exchange markets which requires a stronger commitment to official intervention.

There is, however, no sign that Germany will abandon its traditional opposition to extending intervention arrangements despite the enthusiasm of the Banque de France.

The Bundesbank has always shied away from a greater commitment to intervention because it would reduce control over Germany's domestic monetary conditions. Any concessions by the Germans are likely to fall well short of a commitment to automatic and unlimited support for weaker currencies.

Guinness affair claims new Morgan casualty

By Lawrence Lever

The Guinness affair has claimed another casualty with the resignation of Mr Piers de Montfort, aged 30, a Morgan Grenfell executive who was a junior member of the bank's team working on the Guinness takeover of Distillers.

Mr de Montfort's resignation has sparked off resentment within the merchant bank against Mr Roger Seelig, the former Morgan Grenfell corporate financier who was forced to resign in December over his role in the operation to support the Guinness share price.

There appears to be a strong feeling within the bank that Mr de Montfort, an associate director in the corporate fi-

nance department who was highly rated by his peers, was unwittingly involved in the operation to buy back Guinness shares from its supporters after the Distillers takeover.

Mr de Montfort has not been interviewed by the Fraud Squad officers investigating Guinness along with the Department of Trade and Industry inspectors. There appears to be a strong likelihood, however, that he will be asked to provide evidence to the police on the precise nature of Mr Seelig's activities.

Mr de Montfort originally offered to resign in January but was told this would not be necessary.

His resignation follows an interview he had about two

weeks ago with the DTI inspectors. It emerged from this that Mr Seelig had involved him in part of the share-support operation and in particular in an arrangement to buy back Guinness shares held by LF Rothschild.

As this meant he had had contact with clients outside the bank, it was mutually agreed that he should resign, although sources close to the investigation stressed that his resignation should not be interpreted as implying guilt.

Weekend reports that another Morgan Grenfell executive — Mr Philip Evans — had been asked to leave the bank are understood to be unfounded.

Tripartite plan to cut jobless

By David Smith

Economics Correspondent
 The Government should shift policy in three areas to guarantee a sustained fall in unemployment, the Institute for Employment Research said in a report published yesterday.

The Institute, based at Warwick University, said that in spite of a generally encouraging outlook for the economy over the next decade unemployment will remain high.

The director of the Institute, Professor Robert Lindley, said that there is a need to expand capacity and employment at a faster rate than is currently projected. On its projections, unemployment will remain in the 2.5-3 million range into the next decade.

Professor Lindley urged full British membership of the European Monetary System to reduce the effects of exchange rate uncertainties on exporters.

In addition, the Government should hold back on cuts in income tax in order to reduce the national insurance paid by employers.

Jobs growth, page 25

25 UK companies in Euro top 100

By John Spicer

Twenty-five of the top 100 European companies in terms of annual turnover are British, with British Petroleum (£34 billion) second only to a part-British owned company, Royal Dutch/Shell (£55 billion). West Germany heads the table with 30 of the top 100 European companies.

The list, featured in the latest issue of the Institute of Directors' *The Director* magazine, and compiled by ICC, a specialist provider of company information, shows the big industrial and chemical firms still lead the field.

What is heartening, says the magazine, is the general performance of British companies. BP has held its second place, but others, including British Telecom, Hanson Trust, Marks and Spencer and J Sainsbury, have all boosted their size.

The Director lists the top 10 motor vehicle manufacturers in Europe by sales as Daimler-Benz with £20.5 billion; Volkswagen, £16.5 billion; Fiat, £12.4 billion; Renault, £11 billion; Peugeot, £9.8 billion; and Opel, £4.6 bil-

Sales Growth Top 10

Company	Rank	%
1 Hanson Trst	69	61.26
2 Electrolux	52	33.77
3 S&W Beris'd	25	22.96
4 N Hydro	54	24.40
5 Daimler-Benz	24	24.38
6 Dalgely	56	24.30
7 Br Aerospace	99	18.48
8 Carrefour	53	16.53
9 Volkswagen	7	15.60
10 ASEA	64	14.51

lion; BMW, £4.6 billion; Ford-Werke, £4.5 billion; Ford Motor Co, £4.3 billion; and Rover with £3.4 billion.

The 25 British companies which appear in the top 100 list are: BP (2); British-American Tobacco (8); Electricity Council (20); ICI (22); S&W Berisford (25); British Telecom (30); British Gas (33); Esso (48); Grand Metropolitan (49); GEC (50); Dalgely (56); Ford Motor Co (65); Hanson Trust (69); M&S (71); RTZ (73); J Sainsbury (74); Tesco (79); Rover (82); Gallaher (83); RTZ (88); Thorn EMI (89); Allied-Lyons (91); BS (97); George Weston Holdings (98); and B&Ae (99).

USM REVIEW

Firms in running for star roles

By Carol Leonard

Just like Mr Egon Ronay's world famous restaurant guide, shares on the Unlisted Securities Market could soon be vying with each other for gold stars to verify their investment rating.

Later this week, Deloitte Haskins & Sells, the chartered accountant, is launching its own chart of the best performing USM stocks. The Deloitte USM Ratings will be published each month, showing which shares have performed best since they were floated.

The chart will eventually include all USM constituents and could prove a valuable service to investors, fund managers, stockbrokers and other companies thinking of applying for a USM quote.

Mr David Finlay, senior manager of Deloitte USM group, said: "It's something we think could be of interest. People want to know how their shares

perform. We can produce the figures and update them every month."

The first ratings will be based on the share price of companies at the close of business on August 31.

Mr Finlay said: "This month's table will show the fastest annualized growth rate achieved by companies floated in the past year only. It will exclude those

USM prices.....24

companies that have been trading less than three months."

"Eventually the table will include all USM companies and be calculated after adjusting for share splits and rights issues. The ratings will be calculated on an annualized growth rate."

For example, if a company came to market a year ago at 100p and a year later had risen to 200p, it would be awarded 100 points. Another company which might have come to market six months later at the same price and put up a

similar performance in half the time would be awarded 200 points.

Deloitte is in the process of finalizing the top 10 to be published in the first chart. Several high-flyers have already started to show their paces. Those companies making the early running include Burford Group, the property investment company, which came to market in March at 80p and is now trading at 420p. Under Deloitte's method of marking, it would be awarded a rating of about 1,060 points.

Glenree, the estate agent, appears to be in second place with 992 points, after joining the USM last November at 16p. The price closed on Friday at 135p. It is followed by Rockwood Holdings, the electronic components distributor, on 880 points, Regima Health & Beauty on 696 points, Miller & Sanshouse, the optician, on 651 points and Misy's, the financial systems specialist, on 644 points. It is anyone's guess who will pick up the wooden spoon.



Ready to pack them in the aisles: John Glanfield in the new Olympia conference centre

Exhibitions grow 30%

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Britain's exhibitions industry grew last year by at least 30 per cent after the biggest spending surge for 10 years on this sort of promotion, according to preliminary estimates by the Incorporated Society of British Advertisers (ISBA).

Although ISBA is still working on its full analysis of the 1986 results for its annual report, due later this month, it is clear that spending on exhibitions in Britain last year was probably about £258 million, up from £192 million in 1985.

The increase has emerged as more exhibition space has come on stream around the country, including Glasgow's

Scottish Exhibition Centre and G-Mex in the refurbished Manchester Central Station.

But the biggest impact has been at the National Exhibition Centre at Birmingham, whose share of the spending cake has risen from 35 per cent to 41 per cent. This is partly due to the biennial Motor Show which is the biggest single regular exhibition.

Normally, Earls Court and Olympia, part of Trafalgar House, has the biggest share of the market, but last year its market share at 40 per cent was marginally behind NEC.

But Earls Court and Olym-

pia expects to strengthen its hand this month with the formal opening of a new £3 million conference facility which is an integral part of the Olympia II exhibition hall opened in 1984.

Mr John Glanfield, director of the whole Olympia complex, said: "We discovered that half the exhibitions we were attracting there also needed conference facilities. Yet recent studies have indicated that generally only 26 per cent of exhibitions have conferences. Clearly there was a gap in the market."

The new conference centre has strong forward booking for 18 months, he added.

Big cut in staff likely at L Messel

By Our City Staff

A big staff cutback at L Messel, the stockbroker, is expected before the end of the year.

The decision to reduce staff by as much as 25 per cent is likely to be taken by the firm's owner, Shearson Lehman, the US investment bank, after a review of business since Big Bang.

Last night, M Jacques Gelard, who heads the bank's British operations, would not comment on speculation that big staff cuts would be made and the possibility that it would cut the numbers of shares in which it makes markets to 100 compared with about 400 at present.

He said: "When the time comes we will be forthcoming and very open about it. The stories about what is supposed to be happening have not come from us. We expect to say something this month."

Messel has suffered, in line with many other firms, from the increasingly competitive conditions brought about by Big Bang and the end of fixed commissions.

Earlier this year Shearson began cutting stocks from its market-makers' books and three salesmen at Messel left as part of a pruning exercise. However, the review now taking place is expected to lead to far more drastic job losses.

Many Messel employees, aware of the impending rationalization, are understood to have been hunting for jobs. But the jobs market is not as buoyant as it was and many firms are paying closer attention to overheads. Some firms feel that although it has been possible to carry large costs while the stock market has been trading at a peak, the pressure to cut back will grow as share activity slows.

Earlier this year, the Midland Bank unexpectedly announced its decision to pull out of equity market-making after running up losses.

NatWest to sell unit trust arm

By Our City Staff

National Westminster Bank is poised to sell its £450 million unit trust business and become the only one of the big four clearing banks to operate as an independent intermediary under the Financial Services Act.

The bank is expected to announce soon the sale of its County Unit Trust business for about £30 million.

Under the Financial Services Act banks have to choose between effectively selling only their own life assurance and unit trust products to customers or becoming an independent intermediary selling only the products of other companies. The process is known as polarization.

Barclays, Midland and Lloyds have all opted to sell their own life assurance and unit trust products via their branch network.

National Westminster however has chosen the opposite route. Its subsidiary National Westminster Insurance Services is already one of the

largest insurance brokers in Britain. The bank is expected to expand NWIS to enable it to sell a full range of unit trust products, as a broker, to the public.

The bank's decision effectively scotches the possibility that it is in the market to buy a large life assurance company. However, its strategy may change if the independent route proves unsuccessful.

County Unit Trust Managers has about £450 million under management. Several interested parties have been approached. National Westminster is anxious that the management of the funds should go to a fund management group with a good record to preserve the funds and goodwill of the unitholders.

Most of the big building societies have adopted a similar stance to the National Westminster. The exception is the Abbey National which has linked up with Friends Provident.

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Hanson confirms stake in Midland

By Cliff Feltham

Hanson Trust, Lord Hanson's industrial conglomerate, last night confirmed it had taken a significant share stake in Midland Bank, one of the big four high street clearers.

The move is bound to increase speculation about the future of the bank, which has suffered from lending to developing countries.

Mr Martin Taylor, a Hanson Trust director, said: "We have acquired a stake of over 5 per cent." This makes Hanson Trust the largest single shareholder in Midland.

Mr Taylor said the shares had been bought as an investment and there were no plans to buy any more.

Midland Bank, which has not been told officially of the Hanson involvement, said: "Assuming the reports are true, we are pleased that Hanson Trust shares the confidence of the board and management in the future of the bank."

Hanson Trust is understood to have acquired the holding — thought to be about 7 per cent — over a period of months. There were persistent rumours last week that a buyer had used the Midland Bank's recent £700 million rights issue as a cover to amass a holding. The possibility remains that a predator has also been picking up shares at the same time as Hanson.

Midland was one of the most active shares traded at the end of the week while other banks remained dull.

Hanson's involvement in Midland Bank is bound to intensify speculation in the shares when trading begins today. Lord Hanson is already sitting on a handsome paper profit on his holding, which cost about £140 million.

Sir Kit McMahon, Midland's chairman, who is a former deputy governor of the Bank of England, is certain to ask for an early meeting with Lord Hanson to discover what his intentions are towards the bank.

A takeover bid by Hanson for Midland Bank, valued at about £2.3 billion, appears unlikely, but the stake could be passed on to any financial institution tipped as interested in moving in on the high street bank.

The name most closely linked with Midland's is the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, which made an unsuccessful bid for the Royal Bank of Scotland seven years ago.

Stock market dealers have also suggested that Mr Robert Holmes & Court, the Australian businessman, would like to increase his involvement in the financial sector.

ANALYSIS

Auditors' outsider deals dilemma

The sight of all those stockbrokers, estate agents, architects, surveyors and advisers men enriching themselves by incorporating and selling off their firms is clearly too much for some accountants. Auditing firms must be partnerships by law and all partners must be qualified accountants. But they are now offered the chance to incorporate and seek outside shareholders.

The comparison between accountants and stockbrokers must look particularly stark from the accountant's point of view. Put at its most unkind, the accountant has a bunch of often self-proclaimed barrow boys - many without degrees, never mind professional qualifications - pocketing the proceeds from the sale of their firms. It is only a matter of time before their golden handcuffs are unlocked and they can drive off in their Porsches for a lifetime of luxury in tax exile.

It would be too harsh to suggest that there was much of this thinking behind last Tuesday's extraordinary decision by a majority of senior partners of the "Big Eight" firms to recommend that outsiders be allowed to own shares in auditing firms.

The firms are quick to point out that they have no intention of incorporating, and no need to take in, outside shareholders. The partnership structure may be cumbersome and can make career progression difficult. But the partnership culture is highly prized and the tax implications of incorporation horrendous. All they want is the flexibility to do so should they decide to at a later date.

The current debate is in response to the Government's proposals to implement the European Economic Community's Eighth Directive which will permit auditing firms to incorporate, with the requirement that a controlling 51 per cent is owned by



Participants in accountancy's great debate: Jim Butler, Tim Hoult and Elwyn Eilledge

qualified accountants. The converse is that 49 per cent of the voting equity could then be sold to non-accountant employees and third parties.

There is little argument either inside or outside the profession that auditing firms should be allowed the option of incorporating. And the ownership of shares by non-accounting employees would help solve the dilemma of firms with big management consultancy arms that cannot reward non-accounting senior staff with partnerships. But the question of who should own the shares, other than partners and employees of the firm, is an important issue of principle and is giving rise to considerable disagreement.

Unlike stockbrokers, who were faced with "Big Bang" and the urgent need for capital resources larger than even the richest partnership could afford, most accountants have little need for new capital.

Mr Elwyn Eilledge, senior partner in Ernst & Whinney, said: "Most accountancy firms, including Ernst & Whinney, have adequate reserves for their future development."

In support of his belief, however, that outside shareholders should be permitted,

he said that "most of the 'Big Eight' senior partners agreed that it is appropriate to have some measure of outside interest in, for example, a firm wanted to make an acquisition or an investment."

Mr Tim Hoult, a senior partner at Price Waterhouse, said: "What the majority of accountants want is for the legislation to be permissive, because once legislation is enacted, it becomes very difficult to make changes. It will then be up to the professional bodies to regulate its implementation, specifying what level of outside ownership would be permitted and what safeguards were needed."

It is argued that ownership by the public of 49 per cent may increase auditor independence. Safeguards would be wide ranging if they were to cover all the eventualities that could result in conflict of interest with a large institutional shareholder, especially if it were in financial services with customers, investors and corporate ambitions. A dominant shareholder may not always be benign, non-interfering and considerate of the auditing implications every time he wanted to do a deal.

Auditing firms prohibit their partners and employees

from owning shares in the firms they audit. Outside shareholders, however, could easily become investors in client companies, or could even be involved in corporate deals, including takeover.

Those who oppose outside ownership believe auditors have enough conflicts of interest to contend with. The auditor's independence is already threatened by the increasing importance of fees earned for consultancy work taken on for audit clients. And the laxity of accountancy standards can give the clients undue influence over how the accounts are presented.

Mr Gordon Anderson, senior partner designate of Arthur Young, said his firm would need to think long and hard before taking on corporate shareholders. He said: "There are very real conflicts there."

Mr Jim Butler, senior partner of Peat Marwick McLintock, believes the potential conflicts of interest pose such overwhelming problems that accountants should confine their capital-raising activities to borrowing.

He says: "The independence of the auditors is desperately important. The auditor is already under fire from all quarters and this is a

further potential conflict of interest to cope with."

The Department of Trade rightly appears to have abandoned the idea that there needs to be separation of function between auditing and other services to clients.

But if the accountants then seek to have outside shareholders, the subject of separation of function may once more become open to debate and might be seen as the only way of preserving the independence of the auditor, even if this results in a lower quality of the audit.

Peat goes so far as to suggest that the accountants should seek legislation prohibiting outside ownership of firms, suggesting a minimum of 75 per cent of the shares should be owned by qualified accountants and up to 25 per cent made available to non-accounting partners and employees.

If the Eighth Directive is implemented, it will be only a matter of time before auditing firms have outside shareholders, despite opposition. Ironically, it may start by a smaller firm, where a senior partner of retirement age owns a large proportion of the equity. The younger partners may not want to be saddled with buying him out and the solution could be to bring in an outside shareholder.

Better tax treatment of retirement provisions has made the need to repay capital of senior partners less pressing, but it will be an option.

Mr Butler believes that once one big firm starts having outside shareholders, it will be difficult for others not to follow.

The accountants are considering this question with care. But the dangers of compromising the auditor's independence by adding more layers of potential conflict of interest are not to be dismissed lightly.

Carol Ferguson

GILT-EDGED

Investors braced for open season on pay

The reaction to last Tuesday's balance of payments and banking figures suggests that the gilt market may be overcoming its worst fears about bank lending and the trade deficit. But as the autumn approaches it faces new concerns.

The main question for the gilt-edged investor is whether wage settlements will move up in response to a firming labour market. This would threaten inflation by increasing labour costs and boosting personal income, consumer spending and imports. The Chancellor would be bound to put up interest rates again and to keep policy tight until wage inflation moderated. But if settlements continue at around their present rate, the recent rise in base rates should be enough.

Remarkably, pay settlements and earnings growth have hardly moved over the last four years, despite the high level of unemployment and marked fluctuations in the rate of price inflation and industrial output growth. There are several reasons for this. One is the natural inertia of wage inflation, which has been increased by the recent trend towards two-year (and now three-year) pay settlements.

A more important reason for this stability is that the forces influencing pay settlements have been well balanced. On the one hand, high levels of unemployment, reductions in personal taxation and (last year at least) a fall in the rate of inflation have served to hold down pay settlements. On the other, high rates of productivity growth and corporate profitability have been tending to hold them up.

The latest econometric research, based on wage bargaining theory, suggests that the outlook for company profits and productivity growth strongly influences pay settlements. This factor alone goes a long way to explaining the recent stickiness of wage inflation - managers have found it extremely difficult to negotiate smaller wage increases when they have been reporting record increases in efficiency and profitability.

Profits have grown particularly strongly in the manufacturing sector. This growth has been based on a much better cost performance, owing to a fall in raw material and energy prices, a surge in labour productivity and a weakening of union influence because of unemployment and trades union legislation. International cost competitiveness has also been helped by a fall in the value of the pound, particularly against the mark. So far, industrialists have used their better cost position to restore

profitability rather than boost output. Between 1981 and 1986 profit margins went up by almost a half and they now stand higher than at any time during the 1960s and 1970s.

These labour market influences are now shifting. Manufacturers are responding vigorously to their present opportunities and present opportunities and output is expanding even at the time of the election. Manufacturing employment is increasing for the first time this decade and the labour market is gaining strength, particularly in the South-east of England. The housing market is exceptionally tight in that region and there is concern that the present surge in house prices will be reflected in a general rise in earnings and allowances.

But on the other side of the equation, the outlook for company profits is no longer anything like as buoyant. Now that they have reached a more attractive level, profit margins are coming under competitive pressure. This helped explain the recent fall in the rate of producer price inflation and the surprisingly small proportion of CBI Survey respondents planning to raise prices.

Moreover, the cost environment is no longer so benign. The underlying growth in productivity looks set to continue, but this will now involve capital investment rather than redundancies, which companies will find much more costly. Commodity prices have strengthened considerably, and the downturn of recent years would appear to be over. The Chancellor has stabilized the sterling-market rate and this will exert increasing pressure on company profits and pay settlements, with the option of full EMS membership still open. On balance, a slowdown in profit growth should offset any effect of falling unemployment and rising house prices, making an acceleration of wage inflation unlikely.

On this analysis, the market's worries about credit growth, consumer spending and the balance of payments will diminish. The recent rise in base rates looks nicely judged and should take the steam out of the present expansion, easing the short-term pressure on the current account without endangering the industrial revival.

The growth in real personal income will slow in the autumn as the effects of the tax and mortgage rate reductions associated with the Budget pass through. Real disposable income is the main determinant of consumer spending and imports, which will then steady in line

with real income. This will be reflected in a general improvement in the economic indicators. Next year, output growth will be better balanced and is likely to fall back towards the average for other industrial countries. Unemployment may start to rise again as the economy slows and as the Government's employment schemes run out of steam.

Nevertheless, the labour market situation will need to be watched carefully at this juncture. The gilt market is already concerned about the outcome of the long-term pay deals coming up for negotiation in the motor industry this autumn. These are likely to be on the high side because productivity growth is particularly strong in this sector.

Although they are likely to prove the exception rather than the rule, these pay deals could unsettle the market. Worries about public expenditure could have a similar effect. Rumours about expenditure abroad at this time of year and the public sector pay settlements earlier in the year will lend them credibility. Yet if such increases were to materialize, they would reduce the scope for tax cuts in the next Budget. The PSBR is the bottom line as far as the market is concerned and with tax revenues and privatization proceeds growing so well, the Chancellor is hardly likely to increase the figure set out in last year's Red Book.

Despite these worries, the gilt market currently offers excellent value and must rally strongly at some stage. Comparing yields on conventional stocks with those on indexed issues shows that the market effectively allows for a rise in the rate of inflation to 6 per cent, much higher than could be justified on the present analysis. A comparison with the equity market also favours gilts, suggesting that, at current yields levels, the market is making little or no allowance for the greater risk of holding equities. Although yields in other bond markets have risen recently, international comparisons remain favourable, with gilts possibly gaining from the problems facing the dollar and yen bond markets.

It is possible that bad economic data or worries about pay or other trends could provide an even better buying opportunity in the gilt market. But by the end of the year, the economic trends should be a lot clearer, and yields significantly lower.

Peter Spencer
The author is senior economist at CSFB Gills

Big Bang 'distorts' pay scales'

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

Professional salaries in the stockbroker belts of Kent, Surrey and Sussex are being boosted artificially by high rates in the City of London, according to the Confederation of British Industry.

Company pay structures in the South-east are being distorted by the Big Bang salaries in the City, says the CBI's latest economic situation report, and skill shortages are companies' biggest concern.

Shortages are apparent at all levels, including management, and in particular there is a dearth of qualified engineers. "The more progressive companies are doing all they can to alleviate the situation by consolidating links with schools, colleges and universities and by giving the training of their workforces maximum priority."

In the region, however, skill shortages are made worse by the high cost of housing and the proximity of London.

The CBI records a steady increasing number of companies in the South-east reporting buoyant demand in the last quarter, healthy order books and improved profitability.

Some construction companies say that the boom in demand is causing shortages of materials and others are said to be raising prices in anticipation of the start of work on the Channel tunnel.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
100.000 Anglo	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Bank of Scotland	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Barclays	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 HSBC	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Lloyds	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 NatWest	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Royal Bank of Scotland	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 TSB	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
100.000 Anglo	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Bank of Scotland	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Barclays	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 HSBC	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Lloyds	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 NatWest	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Royal Bank of Scotland	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 TSB	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
100.000 Anglo	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Bank of Scotland	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Barclays	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 HSBC	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Lloyds	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 NatWest	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Royal Bank of Scotland	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 TSB	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interim: Abbeycroft (amended), Asset Trust, Barker & Dobson, Blackwood Hodge, CD Bramall, W Canning, Delaney Group, Friendly Hotels, Hambro Countrywide (expected on September 8), Hibbert Group, Inverclyde, Mallett, Morley Docks and Harbour, More O'Ferrall, Persimmon, Finales: Magnetic Materials, Sime Darby Berhad.

TOMORROW - Interim: Admiralty Computing, ASD, Bodycote International, Bowater, Costain, Emess Lighting, Expanet International, Goal Petroleum, Hawley Group, Hestair, IML, Kerry Group, Loxor Communications, Provident Financial, Savoy Hotel, Technology Project Services (amended), Tozer Kennedy & Milbourn, Trade Indemnity, Finales: Electron House, Haynes Publishing, Istock Johnson, Interlink Express, International Finance and Investment, Merchant Securities, WEDNESDAY - Interim: Abbott Mead Vickers, Amari, BICC, British Telecommunications, British Vita, BTR, John Crowther, Moss Bros, James Neill, New Dairies Oil Trust, Nurdin & Peacock, P&O, Prudential Corporation, Turner & Newall, George Wimpey, Finales: Ammex, James Wilkes, JD Wood.

THURSDAY - Interim: Acorn Computer, Associated

THIRD MARKET

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
100.000 Anglo	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Bank of Scotland	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Barclays	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 HSBC	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Lloyds	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 NatWest	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Royal Bank of Scotland	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 TSB	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Rate	Value	Rate	Value
3 month 10%+10%	10.00	3 month 10%+10%	10.00
6 month 10%+10%	10.00	6 month 10%+10%	10.00
12 month 10%+10%	10.00	12 month 10%+10%	10.00

EURO CURRENCY DEPOSITS %

Rate	Value	Rate	Value
3 month 10%+10%	10.00	3 month 10%+10%	10.00
6 month 10%+10%	10.00	6 month 10%+10%	10.00
12 month 10%+10%	10.00	12 month 10%+10%	10.00

BASE LENDING RATES

Rate	Value	Rate	Value
3 month 10%+10%	10.00	3 month 10%+10%	10.00
6 month 10%+10%	10.00	6 month 10%+10%	10.00
12 month 10%+10%	10.00	12 month 10%+10%	10.00

WALL STREET

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
100.000 Anglo	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Bank of Scotland	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Barclays	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 HSBC	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Lloyds	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 NatWest	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 Royal Bank of Scotland	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.000 TSB	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Rate	Value	Rate	Value
3 month 10%+10%	10.00	3 month 10%+10%	10.00
6 month 10%+10%	10.00	6 month 10%+10%	10.00
12 month 10%+10%	10.00	12 month 10%+10%	10.00

OTHER STERLING RATES

Rate	Value	Rate	Value
3 month 10%+10%	10.00	3 month 10%+10%	10.00
6 month 10%+10%	10.00	6 month 10%+10%	10.00
12 month 10%+10%	10.00	12 month 10%+10%	10.00

Heavy rain gear as reg
Service to show
British
Cork

Heavy trucks move up a gear as registrations rise

By Daniel Ward
Motor Industry Correspondent

After six years in the doldrums, the British heavy truck market is at last showing signs of consistent growth. Registrations increased by 7.4 per cent to 39,002 in the first eight months of this year, according to the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

Demand for trucks over 3.5 tonnes gross vehicle weight has been static at 54,000 for the past two years, but the buoyant economy and demand for road transport has at last set the industry on a slow climb to higher volume.

August registrations, the society says, jumped by 15.5 per cent for the total commercial vehicle market as sales increased to 40,524 from 35,095 in the same month last year. The overall market is running 6.9 per cent ahead of the January to August period last year as registrations reach 212,589.

In the heavy truck sector, the battle for market leadership between Iveco Ford and Leyland Daf remains intense as imports moved up from 38.6 per cent in the first eight months of last year to 40.2 per cent for the same period this



Top of the range: the Daf 95 which may be made in Britain

year. By registering 25 per cent more trucks than Leyland Daf in August, Iveco Ford has moved just 192 registrations ahead of its rival for the year so far and leads the market with a 23.1 per cent share.

Since the merger and rationalization at the beginning of the year, Leyland Daf has returned to profit and will soon benefit from the launch of the top-of-the-range con-

cept 95 Daf trucks. A decision to build this model in Britain is under review.

The shakeout among the British truck makers that forced Bedford to shut last autumn has left Mercedes in a secure third position in the heavy sector with a 14 per cent market share, up from 13.6 per cent in the first eight months of 1986.

Volvo, in fourth place, and privately-owned ERF have seen demand improve sharply as operators have bought increasing numbers of well-equipped 16 tonne gvw trucks. ERF's sales in Britain have risen from 1,022 in the January to August period last year to 1,483 for the same period this year.

Ford continues to strengthen its domination of the heavy-van sector, with the Transit's market share increasing from 33.5 per cent to 41.2 per cent for January to August compared with the corresponding period in 1986.

As registrations in the sector picked up by more than 9 per cent to 91,319 for the year so far, only Freight Rover and Fiat joined Ford in achieving healthy growth. Bedford fell back sharply as it killed off the CF van.

The company fared much better in the light-van market where the Astra diesel has established a good reputation. Ford leads the sector with 22,760 registrations for the year so far followed by Bedford with 18,332. Their improved sales this year accounted for the lion's share of the overall growth in the sector where Austin Rover sales slipped by 18 per cent to leave it in third place.

UK steel 'set for further decline'

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

The British steel industry, which the Government intends to privatize during its present term, is likely to undergo a long-term structural decline by the end of the century, according to a new study of the world steel industry.

The British industry is one of 11 out of 24 steel regions identified by Wharton Economics, the US forecasting group, as being in the declining stage of the steel demand life-cycle. Four others will have reached maturity, eight will be in a growth period and only one - India - will still be in the introduction phase by the year 2000.

Mr John Jacobson, Wharton's director of basic industries, said most of the leading industrialized economies had reached a level of maturity or stagnation in their steel industries by 1970. "Having begun to slip by 1985, they are now in a period of long-term structural decline," he added.

Once steel demand entered the decline phase, he said, volatility increased as markets were lost and the activity base eroded. In 1985, Britain, Belgium-Luxembourg, West Germany, France, The Netherlands, Sweden and the US had reached this stage and by the year 2000 would be joined by Italy, Canada, South Africa and Japan.

According to Wharton, steel demand per head fell in Britain by 43 per cent between 1970 and 1985 and could fall a further 12 per cent by the end of the century. The number of regions in the growth period had declined from six in 1980 to five in 1985 but would rise to eight by the year 2000.

"At the introduction stage, steel demand is growing from a small base and is heavily influenced by the sharp, discrete increases in new manufacturing and infrastructure development projects," says Mr Jacobson. "Most of the steel producers in Latin America, Africa and Asia, plus China and North Korea, are at this initial level."

The growth stage lasts only a short time but is accompanied by a sharp upsurge in demand linked to industrial expansion and dispersion of wealth through the economy.

Wharton says that in the US, where the industry has been beleaguered by excess capacity and financial losses, restructuring and modernization costs could reach \$35 billion (£21.2 billion) over the next five years.

ECONOMIC VIEW

Major faces pounding in the spending battle

The new Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Mr John Major, last week began negotiations over next year's public expenditure with a rather more realistic task ahead of him than his immediate predecessors. The over-riding target fixed by Cabinet in July is to keep public spending falling next year as a percentage of total spending in the economy rather than necessarily to hit the cash total set down in previous plans.

As a strategic objective this makes a good deal of sense. It expresses the Government's underlying aim of reducing its share of the economy and the taxation necessary to finance it. It recognizes that if the economy grows faster than expected there may be a case for allocating some of those extra resources to priority spending programmes such as health. And it reflects the reality of what has actually happened to public spending over the past eight years.

But at the same time the change will make Mr Major's tactical problem harder. The first year of a new parliament is the time to take the difficult decisions on public spending. An election year in which public spending was increased by £4.4 billion should be followed by one in which public spending is firmly held back. However, as gross domestic product is likely to grow faster than expected when the cash totals were fixed last autumn, spending ministers will know that, on the contrary, the cash totals can, and almost certainly will, be increased while still allowing the Government to achieve its stated objective.

Meeting the existing cash target is certainly a tough assignment. The planning total for 1988-89 set out in the last Public Expenditure White Paper of £154.2 billion contained a reserve of £5.5 billion which, depending upon the scale of any possible overshoot on public spending this year, can probably be reduced as programme plans are hardened up to a minimum of £3.5 billion, the same as at the start of the current year.

However, most of that £2 billion reduction in the reserve has already been mortgaged. Increases to programmes agreed in a fit of pre-election magnanimity total around £1 billion. And since the election the Cabinet has also agreed to a rate support grant settlement adding £800 million to local authority spending.

With little flexibility left in the reserve, departments have meanwhile put in bids amounting to several billion pounds for additional spending. Some of these are the usual makeweights which no chief secretary worth his salt is going to take seriously, but they also include some politically pressing items to which even the most flint-faced Star Chamber is going to find difficult to say

no. The Treasury will press hard for offsetting reductions to make way for some of these more urgent calls, but securing worthwhile and genuine cuts becomes more difficult each year.

There is already, then, strong pressure to raise the totals. Mr Leon Brittan, the former chief secretary, more recently Secretary for Trade and Industry, has warned against this course on the grounds that it would jeopardize progress towards reducing inflation and taxation. But higher GDP will help to keep down spending as a proportion of the economy. Since the White Paper, as Mr Gavyn Davies of Goldman Sachs has pointed out, the level of nominal GDP expected in 1988-89 has risen for three reasons.

First, GDP last year was £2 billion higher than expected, second, inflation between this year and next is expected to be slightly higher and, third, real growth is expected to be about 1 per cent greater. The combined effect is to add about £7 billion to forecast nominal GDP, permitting an increase of £2.5 billion in general government expenditure.

Mr Major's task is to see that this sum is not added to spending totals as a matter of course. The Government's immediate objective remains to get as close as possible to the cash total already fixed, namely £154.2 billion.

Insofar as it may be exceeded, the Cabinet has agreed that general government expenditure may not rise above the share of national income previously planned - in other words the new rules do not provide *carte blanche* to increase spending to any level provided it diminishes just slightly as a percentage of GDP. Nor can higher privatization proceeds, which count as negative expenditure, be used to conceal higher spending on programmes. The limit for general government expenditure is set at 42.4 per cent of GDP excluding privatization proceeds, as in the White Paper.

To what extent is the change a relapse into the bad old ways of planning public spending in terms of "funny money"? There are several differences. There is no question of allowing automatic increases in spending in line with whatever increase in unit costs departments claim for their own programmes - planning in so-called volume terms. Once the cash totals are fixed for the year ahead departments must try to live with them.

Nevertheless, this is a looser system than before and success in avoiding a reacceleration in public spending will depend heavily on the determination of Mr Major and the level of Cabinet commitment.

Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

Executive relocation service launched

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

The Nationwide Anglia building society merger has spawned another company, Nationwide Anglia Relocation, which is being launched today to provide a specialist executive relocation service in an area in which British industry could be spending more than £200 million a year.

The new company, a subsidiary of Nationwide Anglia Estate Agency, a network of 350 estate agents throughout the country, aims to minimize the time, costs and upheaval of about 200,000 employees and their companies each year.

Mr Andrew Rogers, general manager, explains that their figures show that 15 per cent of all house moves are job-related. "The direct cost to a company of each move can be as much as £10,000, including surveying, legal and estate agency fees, bridging, loan interest, removal costs and special disturbance allowances. Those are only the identifiable costs, taking no account of the intangible costs of personal and domestic disruption and its undeniable effect on business efficiency."

The new relocation service, joining a growing number of firms specializing in the field, will include every aspect of executive relocation from house purchase and sale to mortgages and will be available to any business, whether it is moving one or 1,000 employees throughout Britain or overseas. The package also offers corporate and personal taxation advice and employee counselling.

The new firm, based at Basingstoke, will use a sophisticated, computerized information network.

Service industries expected to show highest jobs growth

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

Employment in the service industries will continue to grow rapidly between now and the mid-1990s, according to projections from the University of Warwick's Institute for Employment Research.

The Institute's Review of the Economy and Employment 1987, published yesterday, forecasts a steady rise in employment over the next eight years, with most of the increase in services, notably financial services. A rise in employment of 1.4 million is expected by 1995 in this sector.

Employment in the services has risen steadily since the 1950s, says the report, and will continue to benefit from the growing need for specialist services and the success of exports in this area.

Manufacturing employment is expected to decline but at a slower rate than in the first half of this decade.

Between 1975 and 1985, more than 2.2 million jobs were lost in manufacturing - a 3 per cent a year fall in employment. For the period to 1995, jobs are forecast to

EMPLOYMENT CHANGES 1975-95

	1980-85	1985-90	1985-95
Primary industries and utilities	-205	-49	-114
Manufacturing	-1,617	-201	-487
Construction	-101	46	169
Distribution, transport, comms	74	184	337
Business and misc services	1,132	650	1,369
Public services	9	59	115
Whole economy	-709	684	1,406

Source: Institute for Employment Research

fall by fewer than 500,000, or 1 per cent a year.

The basis for the Warwick forecast is a healthy outlook for the economy. Economic growth is forecast to average 2.5 per cent a year for the rest of this decade, and 2.1 per cent in the first half of the 1990s.

Inflation is projected at 4 per cent to 5 per cent a year for the whole period, although the balance of payments is forecast to shift into a deficit averaging £2 billion a year.

The labour force is forecast to rise from 27.3 million at present to 28 million by 1995.

Most categories of manufacturing industry are forecast to shed labour, with falls of 61,500 in textiles employment

between 1986 and 1995, 50,700 in clothing and footwear, 51,400 in metal goods manufacture, 46,400 in iron and steel production, and 30,900 in motor vehicles.

There are some bright spots, however, with electrical engineering forecast to add 17,700 workers, timber and furniture up 17,900, rubber and plastic products up 22,100 and non-metallic mineral products up 9,500.

The biggest increases over the period to 1995 are projected to be in professional occupations, up 900,000; followed by management posts, up 400,000; sales and other personal services, up 300,000; and clerical and secretarial occupations, up 200,000.

British shoemakers step up

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Britain's footwear makers delivered 61.6 million pairs into the trade in the first half of this year, a 5 per cent increase on the same period last year.

Order books are also looking healthier, with an 11.2 per cent volume increase in June compared with the same month last year.

This more optimistic picture for British manufacturers emerges from the latest analysis by the British Footwear Manufacturers Federation.

It has arisen despite an

increase in imports, up 13 per cent in volume over the six months and showing a 42 per cent surge in June compared with the same month last year.

Imports now account for almost 60 per cent of the British retail market in footwear, but what takes some of the edge off this threat is that much of the increase is in cheap goods, often sports footwear from the Far East.

China sent in 6 million pairs and Portugal 5 million pairs. Over the half-year British exports have also risen 5 per

cent in volume, accounting for about 15 per cent of deliveries. In June exports rose more than 14 per cent on annual comparison.

There was a big fall in short-time working in June as production was stepped up. In May, 4,800 workers had been affected but this fell the following month by almost a half to 2,700. Numbers on overtime have also been creeping up.

Retail sales continued to improve during June, with the larger businesses doing best.

Mystery of Nat's rejection

The City does not usually waste time in heralding someone as a whizz-kid, throwing money at them almost as soon as they walk through the door. Yet despite apparently meeting all the criteria, Indian-born Nathu "Nat" Puri seems to have met with an unusually hostile reception. After completing a mathematics degree at Punjab University, Puri, aged 47, arrived in Britain in 1966 with £600 to his name. He found a job with a Nottingham engineering firm and eventually took the company over. His empire, spanning paper mills, plastics and carpet manufacture as well as engineering, and now worth more than £50 million, had been born. Profits of his Melton Medes master company have grown from £234,000 in 1984 to a forecast of £2.5 million this year with turnover expected to top £66 million. His business is family owned, and his City profile thus limited, but it is curious that his offer to subscribe for 5 million new shares at 100p each in publicly-quoted Olives Paper Mill should be snubbed by the firm in favour of an 85p share offer from property developer Michael Kent.

Jesse spree
According to bookmakers Ladbrokes, the next American presidential election will probably be fought out by Richard Gephardt for the Democrats and Vice-President George Bush for the Republicans - with the Republicans odds-on favourites at 8-11. If you fancy

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Corks! foiled again

Bored with drinking champagne? Who in the City isn't? Next time, why not brighten up your lunchtime tipples by seeing how far you can fire the champagne cork? Despite years of practice, an American physics professor, Hansrich Medeiros, has just failed in his attempt to break the world

record for flying champagne corks - after four attempts with bottles of Mumm Cordon Rouge brut at Saratoga Springs, New York, his best shot was 96ft, almost 10ft short of the 105ft 9in listed in the Guinness Book of Records. Could become the ultimate yuppie party game.

hacking an outsider, how about Jesse Jackson for the Democratic nomination at 8-1, or Jack Kemp for the Republicans at 6-1?

Re-Warding

The wheel has come full circle. Nicholas Ward, chief executive of Macarthy, who bears a striking physical resemblance to the new Guinness chief executive Anthony Tennant, must be tickled pink with his ac-

quisition of Drummond chemists shops from Guinness. He knows the business well - he used to run Drummond when it was part of his empire as head of the retail division at Guinness and long memories may recall that Ward left Guinness for pastures new in early 1986, primarily because he found Ernest Saunders a difficult man to work with.

Outsider deal

Looking for the ultimate escape from Big Bang? A wool agent in Yorkshire is doubling up as an estate agent for a Falklands farmer who wants to return to the British Isles. He is offering for sale a 9,000-acre farm on Keppel Island and two adjacent islets, just north-west of the Falklands, complete with two houses, 3,000 sheep and 45 cattle - all for £125,000. "We are looking for a self-reliant family who could put up with that kind of life - who could tolerate the isolation," says wool agent Colin Smith. "It could be a dream for somebody."



Psst! Trade a ticket?

Even if you do not want to go to the ball, the acquisition of a few Big Bang Ball II tickets at £22 a time might turn out to be a better investment than anything now on offer in the bull market. Tickets for the first such ball at the Cafe Royal last year were changing hands among City slickers at up to £100 each on the black market and more than half the 3,500 tickets available this year have been sold within a week. "When you put two stockbrokers together and one of them has something the other one wants, they trade it. It's instinct," says Old Etonian Oliver Baxter, who is organizing this second ball, by popular demand, with help from his "social hostess" - Howard's Way actress Sally Farmiloe. Last year, more than 5,000 people applied for the 3,500 tickets and this year Baxter is predicting an even bigger rush - and a bigger premium. "They're bought by bright and beautiful young things, aged 20-35, the typical yuppie, and they've had a very successful year in the City since Big Bang," adds Baxter, a professional charity ball organiser who once worked for ad agency Ogilvy & Mather.

John Elliott, head of the Australian brewing giant Elders LXL, who commissioned a survey to discover what Joe Public in America thinks of when someone mentions Australia, was delighted to learn that his best-selling Fosters lager was now ahead of even kangaroos and koala bears!

Carol Leonard

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Gold

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No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	UEI	Electronics	
2	Orford Instruments	Electronics	
3	Crysalis	Electronics	
4	Haywood Williams	Buildings/Roads	
5	Hunter Super	Food	
6	Dee (an)	Food	
7	Satellite Speakers	Chemicals/Plas	
8	Tesco (an)	Food	
9	Dele Elec	Electronics	
10	Dele Elec	Electronics	
11	Repsol	Drugs/Stores	
12	Stanley	Electronics A-D	
13	Repsol (an)	Electronics A-D	
14	Repsol	Chemicals/Plas	
15	Microgen	Electronics	
16	Dyson (an)	Electronics A-D	
17	Leigh	Chemicals/Plas	
18	Atlantic Comp	Electronics	
19	Aprior Computers	Electronics	
20	Matthews (Barnard)	Food	
21	Holla	Electronics E-K	
22	Griffin	Buildings/Roads	
23	Carver Cars	Electronics A-D	
24	Flint Co	Buildings/Roads	
25	Tibbet & Britten	Drugs/Stores	
26	Holl Lloyd	Chemicals/Plas	
27	Carlo Ene	Electronics A-D	
28	Doherty Part	Electronics E-K	
29	Holla	Electronics E-K	
30	Holla	Drugs/Stores	
31	Ellis & Eversed	Chemicals/Plas	
32	Repsol	Buildings/Roads	
33	Repsol-Gentry	Electronics A-D	
34	Repsol	Drugs/Stores	
35	Repsol C&W	Electronics E-K	
36	Widmore	Drugs/Stores	
37	Tarrill	Buildings/Roads	
38	Repsol (an)	Electronics A-D	
39	Repsol	Electronics	
40	Electronic Repts	Electronics	
41	Dele	Electronics A-D	
42	Logica	Electronics	
43	Proton	Electronics	
44	Avonshire Metal	Electronics A-D	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS			
Stock	Price	Change	%

SHORTS (Under Five Years)			
Stock	Price	Change	%

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS			
Stock	Price	Change	%

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS			
Stock	Price	Change	%

UNDATED			
Stock	Price	Change	%

INDEX-LINKED			
Stock	Price	Change	%

BANKS DISCOUNT HP			
Stock	Price	Change	%

BANKS DISCOUNT HP			
Stock	Price	Change	%

Capitalization and week's change

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began August 24. Dealings end on Friday, September 14. Settlement day September 21.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices. (an) denotes Alpha Stocks.

Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
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2174					
2175					
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2178					
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Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
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Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
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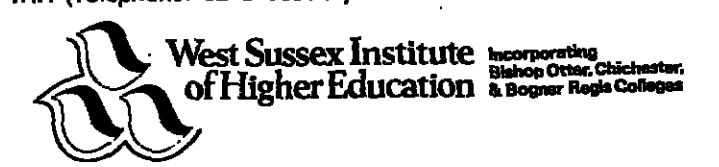
Students may choose to follow two subjects at degree level as a Major (3/4 of the time)/Minor combination or Joint Honours. The subjects offered are:

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| English | - Major joint and minor components |
| History | - Major joint and minor components |
| Religious Studies | - joint and minor components |
| Geography | - joint component only combined with a |
| Related Arts | joint English or the 3 subjects below |
| Art | - these subjects may be taken as joint |
| Dance | components with Related Arts or minor |
| Music | components with any other subject |
| Education | - minor component only |

Thus, for example, a student could achieve a BA (Hons) English and History or BA (Hons) Religious Studies with Art or other combinations from the above list.

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Line up now for a pass to the golden nineties

In the first of three articles on choices in higher education,

Edward Fennell looks at its role in shaping society at the end of the century

The candidate has been placed! Long live the candidate!

This is the time of year when the final remnants of last year's army of university and polytechnic candidates are either slotted into place or run out of courses to which they can apply.

But, meanwhile, waiting in the wings is the next generation of candidates, rehearsing its lines and making crucial tactical decisions on how and where to apply.

In a month or so they will begin to crowd on to the stage and argue why they should be given the privilege of three or more years of higher education. And thus the whole procedure will begin again. Admissions tutors, having just solved this autumn's places problem, need to summon up their strength and bend their minds to next year's.

During this brief lull in the action, however, it is perhaps worth reviewing how it is that higher education now plays such a part in middle-class life (although sadly, the number of applicants from traditional working-class backgrounds is still disproportionately small). And also, why it is that there is now a mighty publicity industry encouraging, exhorting, and sometimes even pleading with young people to apply for their place in the higher education queue.

More mature students in higher education

Higher education, there's no doubt, is more popular than ever before. Since 1979 the number of full-time UK students has risen by more than 85,000. Despite the fact that the 18-19 year old age group peaked in 1982 the number entering Degree and Higher Diploma courses keeps on rising. It is now reckoned that about 14.2 per cent of young people go on to higher education, which is a significant increase over the 1970s. In particular, more young women and more mature students are coming into the system. But do they have good cause?

Certainly in career terms the better qualified you are, the better your chance of gaining a good job. Earlier in the summer the media was full of sensational stories about the large and juicy salaries being offered to new graduates. The City was the principal source of many of these stories but most major employers - from engineering and technology through to accountancy and the law - will complain that they have more jobs than they can fill and as a result they are being forced into sharp competition with each other over salaries and conditions.

This trend is likely to continue. Every kind of organization interested in recruiting well-qualified young people

will admit to grave anxieties about what the 1990s will hold.

One of the reasons that the universities and polytechnics themselves are marketing their courses so vigorously is that they need to increase their "market share" of young people (as well as attracting mature candidates) in order to keep themselves in work. And certainly, beyond higher education, demand for people like army officers, accountants or teachers is likely to remain steady while all the indications are that there will not be the numbers coming forward to fill the vacancies.

Even YTS trainees, they say, will be "like gold dust", so good university graduates will be like 24 carat diamonds.

Already we are seeing the early signs of this. For example, among biochemistry graduates, who have traditionally had difficulties in finding jobs, the unemployment level has dropped this year and now stands at 5 per cent for university graduates and a mere 2.4 per cent for those from polytechnics.

What is more, relatively few biochemists now go into academic life. Teaching in higher education has lost its appeal and even the best qualified are now abandoning their subject in favour of more commercial professions.

To add even more impetus to the incentive to get into higher education there is evidence that in many organizations entry to the most prestigious management training programmes is still dependent on a degree.

While there may be other opportunities to improve on your academic qualifications without a BA or BSc you may still find yourself in your late twenties or early thirties heading up a career cut-throat. In Britain, it must be said, the "industrial training" route to success is still very hard and difficult compared with the "academic" route.

There may be change ahead but for the time being at least the enhanced career prospects enjoyed by graduates is a clear argument for getting a degree.

Of course not all is perfect. A research paper published earlier this year by the Commission for Racial Equality showed that it is far more difficult for ethnic minority graduates to obtain jobs than it

is for their white counterparts. In a comparison of matching groups of black and white graduates, 70 per cent of the whites were in full-time employment one year after graduating, compared with less than half of those from ethnic minorities.

None the less the report did say that even in these circumstances, black graduates felt that they had gained a wide range of general benefits from higher education even though they might feel frustrated at not being able to get quickly into a graduate job.

Right across the board, the general benefits of higher education are now appreciated much more than used to be. However lukewarm our past attitude to the value of education for its own sake, there is now a consensus that with experience, broadening of awareness, the ability to argue and debate, as well as the opportunity for travel - in fact, all the things which go on in higher education outside of the lecture theatre, as well as within it - are important attributes if you are to flourish in Britain in the 1980s and 1990s.

Not just for career reasons, but for other motives too, there seems to be a recognition (at least) that "personal qualities and skills" such as the ability to take decisions, to communicate, and to be enterprising all count for a tremen-

Two-year break from school before poly

dous amount in the world at large.

But while the evidence in favour of the advantages of higher education is overwhelming, does that mean that everyone who is qualified for it should go automatically?

In the long-term the answer is probably yes, but not necessarily immediately after school. Research by the Council for National Academic Awards shows that people who have knocked about the world a bit and perhaps gained their qualifications (from, say, the Business and Technician Education Council or City and Guilds), through part-time study, actually tend to do better at college than those who enter with conventional A-levels. And, in any case, about a quarter of the present applicants to polytechnics have already been away from school for at least two years.

"Ripeness is all" and many sixth formers desperately need to do something else instead of study before tackling a degree course. So if you, or your son or daughter, are now on the point of deciding whether or not to apply, there's no question that higher education is a best buy. But that doesn't necessarily mean you have to buy it right away. Like a good wine, higher education may taste much better if you wait a few years before drinking it.

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EDUCATIONAL COURSES REVIEW

01-481 1066

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You should have 'O' level grade A, B or C passes in English, Maths and Physics, plus study to 'A' level in Maths and Physics. Alternatively, a National Diploma in Electrical Engineering/Electronics plus 'O' level Grade C in English will be considered. You should also have a developed practical interest involving electronics. Ref: 4125/T

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You'll be trained over 3 years to operate the very latest videotape and telecine equipment during recording, post production and transmission.

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In each of the above categories, applicants will need to be over 18 with normal hearing and colour vision.

Please write, quoting the appropriate reference number, enclosing a self-addressed envelope 9" x 5", to: Head of Engineering and Technical Operations Recruitment, BBC, PO Box 2BL, W1A 2BL.

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Technical Operations

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Maths, stats & Comp. Possibility of transfer to BSc after 6 months.

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P-N-L
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The B.S.O. Diploma in Osteopathy. Holders of the B.S.O. Diploma (D.O.) are eligible to apply for membership of the General Council & Register of Osteopaths (M.R.O.).

Admission requirements are broadly the same as for degree courses - at least two A-levels (including Chemistry and preferably Biology) and three O-levels. Entry in September 1987 is still possible. Requirements and further details may be obtained from:

Principal: Sir Norman Lindop, Hon. D.O., M.Sc., G.Chem., F.R.S.C.

The British School of Osteopathy, 11 Bedford Square, London WC1N 3AU. Telephone: 01-323 5254.

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£16,495 - £21,757 (including London Allowance)

The National Council for Vocational Qualifications (NCVQ) has been set up by government as a company limited by guarantee and as an independent body, to establish a new National Vocational Qualifications Framework.

NCVQ is now seeking to recruit a small number of Development Officers to undertake work making a direct contribution to this objective.

Successful candidates would be involved with negotiating and consulting with training organisations, examining and validating bodies and others in the mainstream of vocational education and training, and who are seeking accreditation for their qualifications by the National Council for Vocational Qualifications.

These activities are closely co-ordinated with other aspects of the work of the National Council and Development Officers can therefore become involved in such activities as advising on the implementation of assessment techniques, the initiation of research and development projects, and liaison on matters associated with education and training generally.

Applications are invited from graduates, probably also holding a professional qualification, able to demonstrate progression in their career to date and possessing a high degree of interpersonal and verbal and written communication skills.

Experience in industry or commerce perhaps gained in a statutory or non-statutory training organisation, or the professions would be particularly valuable.

Applicants below the age of 30 are unlikely to be able to demonstrate the experience required.

Appointments will normally be made within the salary range of £15,030 - £17,730 on a scale rising by annual increments to £20,232. In addition a London Allowance of £1,465 pa will be paid.

The NCVQ offers a pension scheme and 25 days annual leave together with 10% days public and privilege holidays. Conditions of service are analogous to those in the Civil Service.

Persons interested in applying for these positions are invited to send a full CV with a short covering letter explaining how they meet the requirements to: Anna Orr, the National Council for Vocational Qualifications, 222 Euston Road, London NW1 2BZ, by 3 October 1987.



THE ROYAL SCHOOL OF CHURCH MUSIC

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR

The Council for the Royal School of Church Music invites applications for the post of Director from 1 March 1989 following the retirement of Dr. Lionel Dakers.

Details of the appointment and application form may be obtained from:

The Vice-Chairman of the Council,
The Royal School of Church Music,
Addington Palace,
Croydon,
Surrey, CR9 5AD.

Closing date: 31 October 1987.



PANGBOURNE COLLEGE BERKSHIRE

HMC BOYS BOARDING AND DAY

APPOINTMENT OF HEAD

The Governors invite applications for the post of Head which will be vacant in September 1988 on the retirement of Mr. P.D.C. Potts, the present Headmaster.

Details of the appointment are available from The Clerk to the Governors, Pangbourne College, Reading RG8 8LA. Telephone 07357 2101.

Applications must be submitted by 9th October, 1987.

HEAD OF BUSINESS STUDIES

St. Godric's College requires a full-time member of staff for Business Studies.

Responsibilities include administration of Business Studies within the College as well as teaching duties.

Applications with a full CV to: Head of Training, 2 Arkwright Road, London NW3 6AD.

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE ASSOCIATION FOR FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT EDUCATION OFFICER

The YHAFHE, one of the ten regional advisory councils for further education covering England and Wales, invites applications from suitably qualified and experienced persons for appointment as Assistant Education Officer.

The main responsibilities of the post will be in the field of adult education and youth services. They will involve professional support to staff of those services in the region and liaison with local education authorities and with a number of national bodies to which YHAFHE is linked by partnership agreements.

The salary for this post is NAC 38-41, £14,301-£15,527. Further details and forms of application may be obtained from the undersigned, to whom completed forms should be returned by Monday, 21st September 1987.

M. Neale
YHAFHE
Bowling Green Terrace
Leeds LS11 9SX
Telephone 440751

HATFIELD POLYTECHNIC LECTURES IN PSYCHOLOGY (TWO POSTS)

LECTURER 2 (£8904-£13,965) or SENIOR LECTURER (£12,474-£16,182)

Applications for these posts are invited from graduates with good honours degrees in Psychology. It is anticipated that one of the two positions will be appointed in Social Psychology and the other in the application of psychology to industry and/or some other associated area of applied psychology. The lecturers will contribute to the teaching of students at undergraduate and postgraduate levels and preference will be given, in at least one of the two posts, to applicants who have had experience in teaching and research.

Application forms and further details can be obtained from the Staffing Office, Hatfield Polytechnic, College Lane, Hatfield, Herts. AL10 3AA. Or telephone Hatfield (07072) 79802. Closing date for applications 28 September 1987.

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Excellent (tax free) salaries and benefits include accommodation.

Please send full CV within one week (ref R.S.210) to:

Saudi Arabian Government.
Personnel Office,
Suite 1, 4th Floor,
1 Great Cumberland Place,
London, W1 7AL
Telephone 01-724 0887

HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY DIRECTOR OF CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Applications are invited for the new post of Director of Continuing Professional Education which will be concerned with the promotion, organisation and management of vocational education courses. Experience in industry or commerce would be an advantage.

The appointment will be for a period of three years in the first instance. A salary of around £25,000 per annum is envisaged according to the successful candidate's qualifications and experience.

Further particulars and application forms are available from the Staff Office, Heriot-Watt University, Riccarton, Edinburgh EH14 4AS, quoting ref no. 89/57/1.

Closing date for application 5 October, 1987.

Edinburgh Television Associates ADMINISTRATOR

The Association wishes to appoint an Administrator to succeed the present holder who retires in December.

Good secretarial skills, including word processing, are essential for the job which calls for considerable exercise of initiative and judgement on all secretarial and administrative matters of the Association.

The job offers a challenge to an experienced secretary who is looking for a more varied post and is prepared to work almost entirely alone at the Central Office. This is currently based in York.

Salary from £28790

Further details from, and CVs (giving two referees) to:

R.A. Stares
Executive Secretary
Edinburgh Television
Associations
c/o Linton College of H.E.
Park Square
Leeds LS1 3JU

Closing date for applications at Edinburgh: 21st October 1987.

Polystyrene, 21st October 1987.

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Apply quoting reference A88/7 by submitting a full curriculum vitae with the names and addresses of two referees to Mr. J. Stone, Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NZ. Closing date 16th October 1987.

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Applications comprising curriculum vitae and sketch of recent work should be submitted not later than 30 September 1987 to the Head of the Department of Fine Art, The University, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 7UL.

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For details apply to: The British Institute of Planners, 100 Tottenham Court Road, London, W1P 0LP. Telephone: 01-527 2538.

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The Centre for British Teachers

PROJECT DIRECTOR: BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

The Centre is recruiting a Project Director to take the place of Jim Austin, who will be leaving Brunei early in 1988 on completion of a three-year contract. The Project Director is responsible for the Centre's English Language Teaching projects in Brunei, including the 200+ Centre teachers serving there.

The successful applicant will have good man-resources and financial management experience, a strong background in EFL, overseas, the ability to liaise at senior level with Bruneian officials, and a sense of humour to deal with the numerous personal problems which arise in a small community. The employment package is generous.

For further details, please write to:

The General Manager,
The Centre for British Teachers,
Quality House,
Chancery Lane,
London WC2A 1HP.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

St George's School

Caritas Road, Harpenden, AL5 4TD

APPOINTMENT OF HEADTEACHER

The Governors invite applications for this Voluntary Aided School. St George's is an all ability co-educational school which admits four forms of entry of day pupils and one form of entry of boarding pupils. It is a Christian Foundation with its own Chapel. The School is in Group 10 for salary purposes but an additional allowance for boarding school responsibilities gives the equivalent of Group 12. It is hoped the successful applicant (boarding experience, whilst not essential, would be an advantage) will be able to take up the appointment on 1st January. The Head is required to live in the official residence provided.

Application forms and further details can be obtained from Alan Morris, Clerk to the Governors at the school, telephone Harpenden (0527) 2161.

CLOSING DATE 30th SEPTEMBER 1987.

TEACHERS - LONDON

INTERVIEWS NOW FOR IMMEDIATE VACANCIES FOR FULL AND PART-TIME POSITIONS NEAR VICTORIA STATION IN REMEDIAL, PRIMARY, AND SECONDARY EDUCATION.

Salary negotiable depending on previous experience and training. Send C.V. plus 2 references and your phone number to:

Miss Robin Miller, Director, Center Academy, Napier Hall, Hyde Place, Vincent Square, London SW1 or phone Miss Miller on 01 821 5760 for details.

GLAMOROUS ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING VACANCY IN TAIWAN

Experience should be at least 3 years 'O' & 'A' Level. It will be a 2 year fixed term contract with provision for renewal after the 2 year term.

The salary will be £19K and the package will include free accommodation, return air ticket to Taipei and 4 weeks holidays per annum.

Teaching will be 26 hours per week and full time in Taipei, Taiwan. Please contact 01 938

01-481 1066

PREP & PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SHREWSBURY SCHOOL
APPOINTMENT OF
HEAD

Applications are invited for the headship of Shrewsbury School, which will become vacant on the appointment of MR. S. J. B. Langdale to a post in the Rank Foundation.

The new head will be required to take office in September 1988 or as soon as possible thereafter. Particulars of the appointment can be obtained from the clerk of the Governing Body, The Alington Hall, The Schools, Shrewsbury, to whom applications together with the names of not more than three referees should be sent by 30th September 1987.

HEADMASTER

The Board at Scitcliffe School invite applications for the post of Headmaster which will become vacant in January 1988. The appointment will be for January or April, 1988.

The school was founded in 1897 and is still under the same overall direction. The Headmaster is a member of the I.A.P.S. The present numbers in the school are 50 Boarders and 75 Day Boys.

Applicants will have attained an Honours Degree and a suitable Teaching Diploma/Qualification, preferably be married and below the age of 40.

Applications with curriculum vitae and the names of two referees should be sent to:

The Chairman of the Board
Scitcliffe
Englefield Green, Surrey TW20 0YJ
Closing date for applications will be 1st October 1987

UNIVERSITIES

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE
POSTGRADUATE
SCHOLARSHIPS
1988 AWARDS

The University of Melbourne offers a number of scholarships each year to assist students in undertaking the degree of Master or the Doctor of Philosophy degree at the University. Non-Australian nationals may apply.

The scholarship stipend is of £7,000 per annum for up to four years (Ph.D) and two years (Masters). Establishment and dependants' allowances are payable.

Applications for 1988 selection close on 31st October 1987. Application forms and additional information may be obtained from the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU), 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF, or the University of Melbourne, Parkville, Victoria 3052, Australia.

ST EDMUND HALL

OXFORD OX1 4AR
DOMESTIC BURSAR

The College proposes to appoint a Domestic Bursar to take up his/her duties ideally from September 1988. The appointment, for three years in the first instance, will carry with it a Fellowship and membership of the Governing Body. Salary will be related to the University Lecturer scale; membership of U.S.S. and certain allowances will be offered. Requests for further information and applications (accompanied by a statement of career and the names of three referees) should be addressed to The Principal (Domestic Bursar). Applications should arrive by 31st October 1987.

City 377 8600

West End 439 7001

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YOU'VE GOT THE MEAD

For the MEAD, you need a Secretary. A secretary to the Media Manager, an international communications group in St James's, you will undertake research projects and assist personnel and premises management in addition to secretarial work. Age 22-24.

Further particulars are available from Professor C.A.R. Hoare, Oxford University Computing Laboratory, 8-11 Keble Road, Oxford, OX1 3QD to whom applications, including a curriculum vitae and the names of three referees, should be sent to arrive before 9th October 1987.

Further particulars are available from Professor C.A.R. Hoare, Oxford University Computing Laboratory, 8-11 Keble Road, Oxford, OX1 3QD to whom applications, including a curriculum vitae and the names of three referees, should be sent to arrive before 9th October 1987.

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EDUCATIONAL

01-481 1066

UNIVERSITIES



University
of Reading
Appointments

PROFESSOR OF CYBERNETICS

Applications are invited for the Professorship of Cybernetics which will become vacant in October 1987 following the retirement of Professor P. B. Felgett, FRS. The Professor will be a member of the Department of Cybernetics within the School of Engineering and Information Sciences.

The appointment will be made from a date to be agreed with the successful candidate. A research Fellowship (for a fixed term of five years) has been established in conjunction with the Professorship.

Candidates should have an established reputation in Cybernetics or a related field and should be capable of sustaining and developing the study of cybernetics within the School of Engineering and Information Sciences as a fundamental academic subject with broad inter-disciplinary applications. The Professor will be expected to expand and develop links with industry.

Further information may be obtained from the Registrar, Room 212, Whiteknights House, P.O. Box 217, The University, Whiteknights, Reading RG6 2AH.

The closing date for applications is October 1987.

MONASH UNIVERSITY

Melbourne, Australia

CHAIR OF
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
AND INFORMAL
ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for appointment to a Chair of Telecommunications and Information Engineering in the Department of Electrical Engineering. This will be the third chair in the Department, the others being held by Professor D.G. Lampard, F.R.S. (founder), Professor R.A. Jarvis, F.R.S. (founder), and Professor R.A. Jarvis, F.R.S. (founder). The Department offers a four year undergraduate course in Electrical and Computer Systems Engineering with final year specialisation in Electrical, Power, Electronics, Communications, Computer Systems, Control Systems or a general program in Electrical Engineering. Research activities are in the areas of Biophysics, Circuit Theory, Communication Theory, Digital Communications, Control, Computer Systems Engineering, Electronic Circuits and Devices, Electromagnetic Field Theory, Optical Communications, Power Systems and Electromagnetic Energy Conversion, Computer Vision and Intelligent Robotics. Liaison with industry and government engineering organisations and laboratories is strong and is encouraged.

Applications are invited from persons with substantial and proven interests in Telecommunications and Information Engineering with emphasis on the former. The successful candidate will be expected to lead a new Centre for Telecommunications and Information Engineering to be established within the Department and to stimulate teaching and research in fields complementary to those fostered by the other two Professors in the Department. Professor Jarvis's fields of interest include Circuit Theory, Computer Systems, Communication Theory, Recognition, Computer Vision, Intelligent Robotics, and Advanced Computer Architectures.

Salary \$458,870 per annum. Superannuation, travel and removal allowance, and temporary housing assistance.

Information on application procedure and further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria, 3168, Australia, or the Secretary, General, Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU), 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF.

Applications should reach the Registrar not later than 6 November 1987. Council reserves the right to make no appointment or to appoint by invitation at any stage.

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UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
DEPARTMENT OF
ENGINEERING
SCIENCEEngineering and
Computing Science
(ECS)University Lecturerships in
Engineering Science

Applications are invited from candidates with appropriate experience for the following TWO lectureships, associated with the above new four-year course:

1. Lecturership in Digital/Computer
Communications Networks

This vacancy is for a person to teach Digital Communication and/or Networks of Communicating Computers. This is interpreted broadly to include: network protocols, fault-tolerant networks, transmission media, adaptive coding and equalisation, security, encryption and tightly-coupled systems. This post may be held in association with a tutorial fellowship at St. Hugh's College.

2. Lecturership in Computer
Integrated Manufacture and/or
Production Engineering

This vacancy is for a person to teach Computer Integrated Manufacture (CIM) and/or Production Engineering. It is interpreted broadly to include: the application of computers to control manufacturing operations, process planning, numerically-controlled machining, automatic inspection, product design and the flexible control of manufacturing processes. This post may be held in association with an Official Studentship (i.e. tutorial fellowship) at Christ Church.

Further particulars of both posts and the associated fellowships may be obtained from Professor C.P. Wroth, Department of Engineering Science, Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PJ, to whom applications should be sent, together with the names and addresses of three referees, to arrive no later than 21st September 1987.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

Department of
English Studies

The English Department requires a part-time tutorial assistant to teach Old English and Middle English language and literature to undergraduates starting October 1987.

Further particulars may be obtained from: Professor C.E. Fell, Department of English, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Please mark envelope "Tutorial Assistantship".

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BRUNEL

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OFFICER

Brunel University seeks a Planning Officer to co-ordinate its academic and non-academic planning.

The successful applicant will be a graduate with a degree in Planning or a related field.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Secretary, Brunel University, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB8 3PH.

Applications should be sent to the Personnel Secretary, Brunel University, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB8 3PH.

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SNOOKER

Imperious Davis too good for Hendry

From a Correspondent Hong Kong

Sieve Davis put Stephen Hendry firmly in his place with an emphatic 9-3 victory in the Riley Hong Kong Masters final yesterday.

Hendry, aged 18, from Scotland, had beaten Jimmy White, the world-ranked No. 2, and Neal Foulds in the previous rounds. Davis, however, the reigning world champion and world No. 1, had already seen off Hendry in seven previous encounters and was in no mood to have his reputation compromised by a raw youngster ranked 23 places lower than him.

Hendry matched Davis for the first four frames and even replied to Davis's run of 77 in the third frame with a 72 break in the fourth.

The young Scot, however, made too many elementary mistakes and was severely punished for them.

Hendry managed to pull back one frame in the evening but the night, the trophy, the £30,000 winner's cheque and the maximum of nine Grand Prix points belonged to Davis as he moved to equal first in the World Series standings, along with Dennis Taylor, winner last week of the Tokyo Masters.

GOLF

Wiltshire from out of nowhere

By John Hennessy

Wiltshire, represented by Swindon, came from nowhere to win the English club championship at Coventry on Saturday. Overnight they started second in 152, nine shots behind the leaders, John O'Gaunt. Two years ago they finished last.

They put that undistinguished background behind them on the second day with two fine rounds behind the Coventry pair of 75. Stephen Robertson, aged 23, recorded a 69 and Brian McCallum, nearly twice his colleague's age, was only two strokes higher. They beat Ealing, the holders, by one stroke.

Swindon's reward includes a trip to the Aloha club, Maui, in November to represent England in the European team championship.

The whole competition turned on the last two holes at Coventry. The two counting partners for Ealing, Jerome O'Shea and Ricky Wright, both dropped a shot at both holes. Robertson had a rare birdie at the 18th and McCallum came home staunchly in par to ease past Ealing.

LEADERS SCORES: 2nd, Swindon 69, McCallum 71, 223; Ealing 70, O'Shea 70, 224; Coventry 75, Robertson 75, 152; Swindon 76, Wright 76, 153; Ealing 77, O'Shea 77, 154; Coventry 78, Wright 78, 155; Ealing 79, O'Shea 79, 156; Coventry 80, Wright 80, 157; Ealing 81, O'Shea 81, 158; Coventry 82, Wright 82, 159; Ealing 83, O'Shea 83, 160; Coventry 84, Wright 84, 161; Ealing 85, O'Shea 85, 162; Coventry 86, Wright 86, 163; Ealing 87, O'Shea 87, 164; Coventry 88, Wright 88, 165; Ealing 89, O'Shea 89, 166; Coventry 90, Wright 90, 167; Ealing 91, O'Shea 91, 168; Coventry 92, Wright 92, 169; Ealing 93, O'Shea 93, 170; Coventry 94, Wright 94, 171; Ealing 95, O'Shea 95, 172; Coventry 96, Wright 96, 173; Ealing 97, O'Shea 97, 174; Coventry 98, Wright 98, 175; Ealing 99, O'Shea 99, 176; Coventry 100, Wright 100, 177; Ealing 101, O'Shea 101, 178; Coventry 102, Wright 102, 179; Ealing 103, O'Shea 103, 180; Coventry 104, Wright 104, 181; Ealing 105, O'Shea 105, 182; Coventry 106, Wright 106, 183; Ealing 107, O'Shea 107, 184; Coventry 108, Wright 108, 185; Ealing 109, O'Shea 109, 186; Coventry 110, Wright 110, 187; Ealing 111, O'Shea 111, 188; Coventry 112, Wright 112, 189; Ealing 113, O'Shea 113, 190; Coventry 114, Wright 114, 191; Ealing 115, O'Shea 115, 192; Coventry 116, Wright 116, 193; Ealing 117, O'Shea 117, 194; Coventry 118, Wright 118, 195; Ealing 119, O'Shea 119, 196; Coventry 120, Wright 120, 197; Ealing 121, O'Shea 121, 198; Coventry 122, Wright 122, 199; Ealing 123, O'Shea 123, 200; Coventry 124, Wright 124, 201; Ealing 125, O'Shea 125, 202; Coventry 126, Wright 126, 203; Ealing 127, O'Shea 127, 204; Coventry 128, Wright 128, 205; Ealing 129, O'Shea 129, 206; Coventry 130, Wright 130, 207; Ealing 131, O'Shea 131, 208; Coventry 132, Wright 132, 209; Ealing 133, O'Shea 133, 210; Coventry 134, Wright 134, 211; Ealing 135, O'Shea 135, 212; Coventry 136, Wright 136, 213; Ealing 137, O'Shea 137, 214; Coventry 138, Wright 138, 215; Ealing 139, O'Shea 139, 216; Coventry 140, Wright 140, 217; Ealing 141, O'Shea 141, 218; Coventry 142, Wright 142, 219; Ealing 143, O'Shea 143, 220; Coventry 144, Wright 144, 221; Ealing 145, O'Shea 145, 222; Coventry 146, Wright 146, 223; Ealing 147, O'Shea 147, 224; Coventry 148, Wright 148, 225; Ealing 149, O'Shea 149, 226; Coventry 150, Wright 150, 227; Ealing 151, O'Shea 151, 228; Coventry 152, Wright 152, 229; Ealing 153, O'Shea 153, 230; Coventry 154, Wright 154, 231; Ealing 155, O'Shea 155, 232; Coventry 156, Wright 156, 233; Ealing 157, O'Shea 157, 234; Coventry 158, Wright 158, 235; Ealing 159, O'Shea 159, 236; Coventry 160, Wright 160, 237; Ealing 161, O'Shea 161, 238; Coventry 162, Wright 162, 239; Ealing 163, O'Shea 163, 240; Coventry 164, Wright 164, 241; Ealing 165, O'Shea 165, 242; Coventry 166, Wright 166, 243; Ealing 167, O'Shea 167, 244; Coventry 168, Wright 168, 245; Ealing 169, O'Shea 169, 246; Coventry 170, Wright 170, 247; Ealing 171, O'Shea 171, 248; Coventry 172, Wright 172, 249; Ealing 173, O'Shea 173, 250; Coventry 174, Wright 174, 251; Ealing 175, O'Shea 175, 252; Coventry 176, Wright 176, 253; Ealing 177, O'Shea 177, 254; Coventry 178, Wright 178, 255; Ealing 179, O'Shea 179, 256; Coventry 180, Wright 180, 257; Ealing 181, O'Shea 181, 258; Coventry 182, Wright 182, 259; Ealing 183, O'Shea 183, 260; Coventry 184, Wright 184, 261; Ealing 185, O'Shea 185, 262; Coventry 186, Wright 186, 263; Ealing 187, O'Shea 187, 264; Coventry 188, Wright 188, 265; Ealing 189, O'Shea 189, 266; Coventry 190, Wright 190, 267; Ealing 191, O'Shea 191, 268; Coventry 192, Wright 192, 269; Ealing 193, O'Shea 193, 270; Coventry 194, Wright 194, 271; Ealing 195, O'Shea 195, 272; Coventry 196, Wright 196, 273; Ealing 197, O'Shea 197, 274; Coventry 198, Wright 198, 275; Ealing 199, O'Shea 199, 276; Coventry 200, Wright 200, 277; Ealing 201, O'Shea 201, 278; Coventry 202, Wright 202, 279; Ealing 203, O'Shea 203, 280; Coventry 204, Wright 204, 281; Ealing 205, O'Shea 205, 282; Coventry 206, Wright 206, 283; Ealing 207, O'Shea 207, 284; Coventry 208, Wright 208, 285; Ealing 209, O'Shea 209, 286; Coventry 210, Wright 210, 287; Ealing 211, O'Shea 211, 288; Coventry 212, Wright 212, 289; Ealing 213, O'Shea 213, 290; Coventry 214, Wright 214, 291; Ealing 215, O'Shea 215, 292; Coventry 216, Wright 216, 293; Ealing 217, O'Shea 217, 294; Coventry 218, Wright 218, 295; Ealing 219, O'Shea 219, 296; Coventry 220, Wright 220, 297; Ealing 221, O'Shea 221, 298; Coventry 222, Wright 222, 299; Ealing 223, O'Shea 223, 300; Coventry 224, Wright 224, 301; Ealing 225, O'Shea 225, 302; Coventry 226, Wright 226, 303; Ealing 227, O'Shea 227, 304; Coventry 228, Wright 228, 305; Ealing 229, O'Shea 229, 306; Coventry 230, Wright 230, 307; Ealing 231, O'Shea 231, 308; Coventry 232, Wright 232, 309; Ealing 233, O'Shea 233, 310; Coventry 234, Wright 234, 311; Ealing 235, O'Shea 235, 312; Coventry 236, Wright 236, 313; Ealing 237, O'Shea 237, 314; Coventry 238, Wright 238, 315; Ealing 239, O'Shea 239, 316; Coventry 240, Wright 240, 317; Ealing 241, O'Shea 241, 318; Coventry 242, Wright 242, 319; Ealing 243, O'Shea 243, 320; 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Coventry 278, Wright 278, 355; Ealing 279, O'Shea 279, 356; Coventry 280, Wright 280, 357; Ealing 281, O'Shea 281, 358; Coventry 282, Wright 282, 359; Ealing 283, O'Shea 283, 360; Coventry 284, Wright 284, 361; Ealing 285, O'Shea 285, 362; Coventry 286, Wright 286, 363; Ealing 287, O'Shea 287, 364; Coventry 288, Wright 288, 365; Ealing 289, O'Shea 289, 366; Coventry 290, Wright 290, 367; Ealing 291, O'Shea 291, 368; Coventry 292, Wright 292, 369; Ealing 293, O'Shea 293, 370; Coventry 294, Wright 294, 371; Ealing 295, O'Shea 295, 372; Coventry 296, Wright 296, 373; Ealing 297, O'Shea 297, 374; Coventry 298, Wright 298, 375; Ealing 299, O'Shea 299, 376; Coventry 300, Wright 300, 377; Ealing 301, O'Shea 301, 378; Coventry 302, Wright 302, 379; Ealing 303, O'Shea 303, 380; Coventry 304, Wright 304, 381; Ealing 305, O'Shea 305, 382; Coventry 306, Wright 306, 383; Ealing 307, O'Shea 307, 384; Coventry 308, Wright 308, 385; Ealing 309, O'Shea 309, 386; Coventry 310, Wright 310, 387; Ealing 311, O'Shea 311, 388; 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Coventry 346, Wright 346, 423; Ealing 347, O'Shea 347, 424; Coventry 348, Wright 348, 425; Ealing 349, O'Shea 349, 426; Coventry 350, Wright 350, 427; Ealing 351, O'Shea 351, 428; Coventry 352, Wright 352, 429; Ealing 353, O'Shea 353, 430; Coventry 354, Wright 354, 431; Ealing 355, O'Shea 355, 432; Coventry 356, Wright 356, 433; Ealing 357, O'Shea 357, 434; Coventry 358, Wright 358, 435; Ealing 359, O'Shea 359, 436; Coventry 360, Wright 360, 437; Ealing 361, O'Shea 361, 438; Coventry 362, Wright 362, 439; Ealing 363, O'Shea 363, 440; Coventry 364, Wright 364, 441; Ealing 365, O'Shea 365, 442; Coventry 366, Wright 366, 443; Ealing 367, O'Shea 367, 444; Coventry 368, Wright 368, 445; Ealing 369, O'Shea 369, 446; Coventry 370, Wright 370, 447; Ealing 371, O'Shea 371, 448; Coventry 372, Wright 372, 449; Ealing 373, O'Shea 373, 450; Coventry 374, Wright 374, 451; Ealing 375, O'Shea 375, 452; Coventry 376, Wright 376, 453; Ealing 377, O'Shea 377, 454; Coventry 378, Wright 378, 455; Ealing 379, O'Shea 379, 456; Coventry 380, Wright 380, 457; Ealing 381, O'Shea 381, 458; Coventry 382, Wright 382, 459; Ealing 383, O'Shea 383, 460; Coventry 384, Wright 384, 461; Ealing 385, O'Shea 385, 462; Coventry 386, Wright 386, 463; Ealing 387, O'Shea 387, 464; Coventry 388, Wright 388, 465; Ealing 389, O'Shea 389, 466; Coventry 390, Wright 390, 467; Ealing 391, O'Shea 391, 468; Coventry 392, Wright 392, 469; Ealing 393, O'Shea 393, 470; Coventry 394, Wright 394, 471; Ealing 395, O'Shea 395, 472; Coventry 396, Wright 396, 473; Ealing 397, O'Shea 397, 474; Coventry 398, Wright 398, 475; Ealing 399, O'Shea 399, 476; Coventry 400, Wright 400, 477; Ealing 401, O'Shea 401, 478; Coventry 402, Wright 402, 479; Ealing 403, O'Shea 403, 480; Coventry 404, Wright 404, 481; Ealing 405, O'Shea 405, 482; Coventry 406, Wright 406, 483; Ealing 407, O'Shea 407, 484; Coventry 408, Wright 408, 485; Ealing 409, O'Shea 409, 486; Coventry 410, Wright 410, 487; Ealing 411, O'Shea 411, 488; Coventry 412, Wright 412, 489; Ealing 413, O'Shea 413, 490; Coventry 414, Wright 414, 491; Ealing 415, O'Shea 415, 492; Coventry 416, Wright 416, 493; Ealing 417, O'Shea 417, 494; Coventry 418, Wright 418, 495; Ealing 419, O'Shea 419, 496; Coventry 420, Wright 420, 497; Ealing 421, O'Shea 421, 498; Coventry 422, Wright 422, 499; Ealing 423, O'Shea 423, 500; Coventry 424, Wright 424, 501; Ealing 425, O'Shea 425, 502; Coventry 426, Wright 426, 503; Ealing 427, O'Shea 427, 504; Coventry 428, Wright 428, 505; Ealing 429, O'Shea 429, 506; Coventry 430, Wright 430, 507; Ealing 431, O'Shea 431, 508; Coventry 432, Wright 432, 509; Ealing 433, O'Shea 433, 510; Coventry 434, Wright 434, 511; Ealing 435, O'Shea 435, 512; Coventry 436, Wright 436, 513; Ealing 437, O'Shea 437, 514; Coventry 438, Wright 438, 515; Ealing 439, O'Shea 439, 516; Coventry 440, Wright 440, 517; Ealing 441, O'Shea 441, 518; Coventry 442, Wright 442, 519; Ealing 443, O'Shea 443, 520; Coventry 444, Wright 444, 521; Ealing 445, O'Shea 445, 522; Coventry 446, Wright 446, 523; Ealing 447, O'Shea 447, 524; 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8	10222P	SHUTTLECOCK STAR 121 (S) (S Briggs) R Woodhouse 5-10-8.....	Sharon James	99
0	03000-4	SPECIAL SETTING 17 (S) (T Besty) R Allen 6-10-0.....	Miss L Eaton	98
1	03000-2	RIVER TROUT 7 (J Taylor) C Treadle 6-10-0.....	Mizz G Armytage	95
3	0-	COMPOSER 273 (B) (Mrs M James) M James 9-10-0.....	NON-RUNNER	---

HORSE TRIALS

European title for Leng again as Night Cap ends his career

From Jenny MacArthur, Lahnstein, West Germany

Virginia Leng, the world and European champion, retained the latter title on Night Cap here yesterday after a clear round in the showjumping completed three days of faultless competition in the European three-day event championships.

Mrs Leng, who now joins Lucinda Green as only the second person to win the European title twice, wants to retire the 14-year-old gelding to the hunting field — just as she did her former top horse Priceless, after winning last year's world championship.

"He could never be more brilliant than he was here," she said of her mount. The British team proved that the gold medal won so easily at Burghley two years ago was no fluke as they finished 41 points ahead of the West Germans, the silver medal winners.

Britain's score was boosted by magnificent performances from both Ian Stark on Sir Wattle, who took the individual silver medal, and from Rachel Huat on Aloof, who finished fourth. Both these horses, together with Mark Phillips's Cartier, who finished twelfth, must now be key contenders for a place in next year's Olympic team.

Although Mrs Leng dominated the competition, Miss Hunt, aged 22, played a crucial role in the team gold medal when surviving a near fall at the ninth fence on Saturday's cross-country course. Lucinda Green, who

went first for the British team had had a crashing fall there on Saturday, who as a result was not presented at yesterday's final horse inspection. So it was crucial that Miss Hunt, the second to go across country, got round clear.

At the start of yesterday's showjumping, the British had six fences in hand over the West Germans, but for the individual title Mrs Leng had only one fence in hand over Stark, who was less than a point ahead of Erhorn.

Erhorn relieved some of the pressure when hitting the final part of the treble. Stark then produced a nerve-wracking round but somehow navigated his Badminton-winner Clear Mrs Leng, with typical generosity, was relieved when she heard the applause for Stark. "I knew then that even if I made a muddle, we'd still have the individual gold."

But Night Cap, though not unknown to send a few showjumping poles flying, was not going to take any chances. He cleared each of the 12 fences with ease and, as the applause broke out, looked around proudly as if knowing that, in the twilight of his career, he had become a champion.

RESULTS: Individual: 1, Night Cap (V Leng, GB) 38; 2, Sir Wattle (I Stark, GB) 40; 3, Aloof (R Huat, GB) 44; 4, Aloof (R Huat, GB) 44; 5, Lucinda Green (L Green, GB) 45; 6, Cartier (M Phillips, GB) 46; 7, Sir Wattle (I Stark, GB) 46; 8, Sir Wattle (I Stark, GB) 46; 9, Sir Wattle (I Stark, GB) 46; 10, Sir Wattle (I Stark, GB) 46; 11, Sir Wattle (I Stark, GB) 46; 12, Sir Wattle (I Stark, GB) 46.

YACHTING

Norway's Prince crowns it

Crown Prince Harald, of Norway, won the one-ton cup world championship here on Saturday in the best possible manner by a convincing win in the final Olympic race (Barry Pickhail writes from Kiel).

The prince's Finn-designed Fram X finished ahead of the Spanish-entered Sirius IV, another Finn design, which took the runners-up spot for the second year in succession.

The last event, sailed in misty, shifty conditions, saw the first four yachts complete the shortened race in their final order with Monaco, skippered by Eddie Ward, taking the prize followed by last year's winners sailing aboard the Danish yacht, Andels Banken.

Jamarell, skippered by Rodney Pattison and Lawrence Smith, finished the race fifth but paid the price of making an issue out of carrying the 20-litre portable fuel tank for a second time during the second inshore race, with a 30 per cent penalty which dropped them to 13th overall.

June, the second British yacht, skippered in this series by Tony Gale, ended the last race tenth followed by Barry Polley's Benetton-proposed yacht Bice Diamond in 28th place.

HOCKEY

England in complete command

By Joyce Whitehead

England's women swept to a 9-0 victory over Italy in the second Nat West European Cup at Pickers Lane, north London, yesterday. Four goals from Jill Atkins, two from Kate Parker and one each from Kate Parker and Mary Cheetham without reply told the story.

This overwhelming win did England the world of good.

Then there was a turn up when Spain beat West Germany (the Olympic silver medal winners) 2-0. This result gave Ireland a lift. Playing in the morning and now look to have a chance to reach the semi-final.

West Germany were in trouble when they only drew with England. The score was 1-1 and should have been a win for England.

They played their best yet, led 1-0 and gained a penalty stroke but failed to score and straightaway the Germans took the ball down and put in the equalizer. It was as easy as that and there was no more score.

Ireland had good shooting practice against Italy on Saturday and came away 7-0 the winners. But Scotland and Wales were both out of luck yesterday. The Netherlands gave Scotland just enough practice to lift their hopes and then scored five times.

Against Belgium, always difficult opponents, Wales did everything but score and straightaway got the ball in the net in the 64th minute.

England rest today and play Spain noon tomorrow.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SUNDAY LEAGUE NATIONAL LEAGUE

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